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# Saipan Tribune

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## OPINION METER

**This week's poll:**  
What's your level of confidence in CHC's ability to meet your healthcare needs?

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## PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 6

As of July 20, 2009

**Phase 1:** Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

**Phase 2:** An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

**Phase 3:** An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

**Phase 4:** Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

**Phase 5:** A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

**Phase 6:** The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail [cnmipheoc@gmail.com](mailto:cnmipheoc@gmail.com), or visit [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/).

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

## INSIDE



### McCourt, 78

Frank McCourt, the author of Pulitzer Prize-winning "Angela's Ashes," has died of cancer.

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Villagomez family, friends appeal for leniency. **PAGE 3**  
'It's final: No accident insurance for govt employees' **PAGE 5**

## Judiciary's \$13.8M loan with Fund faces default next year

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The Judiciary's average monthly collec-

tions have significantly dropped in the last few years and will result in its \$13.8 million loan to the Retirement Fund going in default by next year.

Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan and Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja informed the Legislature that, as of July 15, 2009, the outstanding balance on the orig-

inal loan of \$13,815,337 is \$7,092,884. The money was used to build the Judicial Complex in Susupe.

See **JUDICIARY'S** on Page 4

## 2 swine flu cases confirmed

### Yahoo Japan: Managaha is No. 3 top beach worldwide



Managaha, a dot of white-sand and tropic palms inside the lagoon of Saipan in the Pacific, was recently highlighted under the Summer Trip 2009 category by travel agencies associated with Yahoo Travel.

LIAN WOO

Insatiable bliss. That is how some describe Managaha island in the Northern Mariana Islands, a tiny isle recently named No. 3 on Yahoo Japan's "must-see ranking" of Best Beaches in the World.

A dot of white-sand and tropic palms inside the lagoon of Saipan island in the Pacific, Managaha was recently high-

lighted under the Summer Trip 2009 category by travel agencies associated with Yahoo Travel.

See **MANAGAHA** on Page 4

Boy, 16, and tourist have already recovered

By **NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.**  
[n\\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com](mailto:n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The Department of Public Health announced yesterday two confirmed cases of H1N1 influenza on Saipan—a 16-year-old local boy and a recent visitor from Japan.

DPH said the boy is doing fine while the 26-year-old Japanese already flew back to Japan. DPH said the two have

See **SWINE FLU** on Page 4

## NMC hires Galvin as new director

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
[moneth\\_deposa@saipantribune.com](mailto:moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

After losing in the Republican Party's primary election last month, Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero has found a new career, this time at the island's lone tertiary institution.

The Northern Marianas College has hired Deleon



Guerrero

See **NMC** on Page 4



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## Local

## CPA posts 18 percent less cargo in two months

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has posted a continuous drop in the average amount of cargo that goes through the island's seaports—a sign that consumers are still holding on to their wallets as a result of the down economy.

Records obtained by *Saipan Tribune* show that cargo movements remained down in the last two months, with a 23-percent decline in May and an 11-percent drop in June, compared to the same periods in fiscal year 2008.

For the two months combined, CPA had an 18-percent decline on its inbound cargoes, with a total of only 59,221 revenue tonnage.

Last year, CPA had a total of 72,181 revenue tonnage in inbound cargoes during the same period, with May 2008 posting 39,597 tons and June, 32,584 tons.

This year, May recorded 30,374 tonnage; June had a total of only 28,847.

Saipan seaport manager MaryAnn Q. Lizama yesterday said that, although they hope to have more, they believe the

records will be stagnant in the coming months.

"Though we would like to expect more, it remains the same. There hasn't been a change on the commodity climate and the good thing is that the activities are still going on. We have remained stable and just hope that it doesn't drop further than it already has," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

She said that based on current statistics, it is obvious that CPA will continue to see a decline in numbers. "As for the coming months, it's unpredictable..." she added.

Lizama explained that the commodity climate is based on people's needs on the island.

"It is obvious that consumers are still very cautious about what we buy and with penny-pinching comes lesser movement in commodities. It is all dependent on supply and demand. If we use less, then we get less. If we demand more, then we get more," she added.

Records show that of the 28,847 total inbound cargoes accommodated at the Saipan seaport last month, 12,740 tonnage were fuel deliveries; other commodities posted 7,275 ton-

nage, while construction materials were at 1,308 tonnage. Foods and beverages items were at 5,436 tonnage.

In May, fuel was the top performer for inbound cargoes with 12,712 revenue tons; other commodities were at 5,984 tons; while foods and beverages posted 5,436 tons.

Since the start of Fiscal Year 2009, it was only in the first month—October 2008—when CPA posted a 9-percent increase in inbound commodities, compared to the same

period last year.

Since then, significant drops were noted in the movement of commodities at the island's seaports: November, 30 percent; December, 56 percent; January, 22 percent; February, 4 percent; March, 17 percent; April, 4 percent; May, 23 percent; and June, 11 percent.

These drops were determined in comparison to the revenue tonnage CPA received in the same periods in fiscal year 2008 that started in October 2007.

CNMI experienced a severe drop in the movement of inbound and outbound commodities after the demise of the garment industry on Saipan.

## 'Judiciary's \$5.1M budget request not excessive'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Judiciary's \$5.1 million budget request for Fiscal Year 2010 is not excessive and not based on mere speculation, according to Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan and Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja.

Demapan and Naraja informed the House Committee on Ways and Means that their budget request represents the minimum that the Judiciary re-

quires to function in the manner mandated by law.

"The allocation of any less will result in a great detriment to the residents of the CNMI—all of whom depend, in one way or another, on the judiciary," the two Judiciary officials said.

The \$5.1 million budget request for FY 2010 is \$1.6 million more than what the Legislature gave the Judiciary in FY 2009.

Citing scheduling conflicts, the Judiciary failed to participate in an FY 2010 budget hear-

ing before the House Committee of Ways and Means, chaired by Rep. Ray Yumul. Instead, Demapan and Naraja submitted a letter to the committee on Thursday to highlight the financial needs of the Judiciary.

In it, the two pointed out that their \$5.1 million projected operating cost equates to just 3 percent of the total CNMI budget, even though the Judiciary is a co-equal branch of government.

Of the requested \$5.1 million, \$3.7 million or 73 percent

of expenditures are allocated for personnel costs, according to Demapan and Naraja.

In the last two years, the Judiciary cut its workforce from 104 employees to just 74—a 29 percent decrease. Demapan and Naraja said the Judiciary's personnel costs went down by almost \$900,000 in the same period.

They said the administrative assistants, law clerks, indigent defense attorneys, maintenance staff, security officers, and other nonjudicial personnel will bear the burden of any funding cuts.

"A stable and experienced work force with a low turnover rate is essential to the efficient operation of the Judiciary," they said. "If the Legislature does not provide the resources we have requested, the negative impact on these essential staff members will further cripple our ability to serve the Commonwealth."

The Judiciary also scaled back its infrastructure expenses this fiscal year. Demapan and Naraja said they no longer employ a commercial cleaning service, saving the government over \$30,000 annually.

"Members of our internal maintenance crew and other staff within each individual department now take time out of their work schedules to keep our facility clean and in working order," they said.

To save \$32,000 annually, the Judiciary stopped operating the air conditioning system in the lobby. In addition, Demapan and Naraja said, elevator maintenance has been scaled back, saving \$4,000 per year.

As for courthouse security, they said the Guma Hustisia doesn't have a fully staffed security force, making them vulnerable to attempted escapes of criminals.

"Further funding cuts will undermine our efforts to protect those responsible for delivering justice, and will consequently create a more dangerous environment in the community," they said.

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# Tourism Tuesday

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority  
*Tourism is everybody's business.*

**Who's traveling our Northern Mariana Islands?** Let's find out more about the visitors from our major markets.

## Japan

Japan is the primary tourism market for the Northern Marianas. Last fiscal year, visitors from Japan comprised 51% of all visitors (202,041 out of 396,497 total arrivals). So far this fiscal year, Japanese make up 56% of all visitors arrivals (155,877 of 276,680 arrivals through June 2009). So far, Japanese arrivals are up 5% overall this year, influenced in part by the strength of the Japanese Yen against the U.S. Dollar.

Who is our average Japanese visitor? In June 2009, 53 percent of Japanese were males and 47 percent were females. The largest age group was 25-29 (17 percent). About half (46 percent) were on their first visit to the CNMI, while slightly fewer (41 percent) had visited the CNMI before (9 percent did not respond).

Who do these Japanese travel with, and how do they make their travel arrangements? 47 percent of Japanese traveling to the Northern Marianas last month came with friends, and 62 percent were traveling on packaged tours. The top four travel plans during their stay included pleasure (71 percent), dive (22 percent), golf, and company trip.

What influences our average Japanese visitor to choose the Northern Marianas over other destinations? The most popular factors were previous trip (23 percent), price (21 percent), friends/relatives (20 percent) and travel agent (19 percent). Of these, price (+9.69 percent) showed the only growth in arrivals as compare to June 2008.



This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune



# Villagomez family, friends appeal for lenient sentence

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.  
n\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Family and friends of former lieutenant governor Timothy Villagomez have written individual letters to ask the federal court to be lenient when it sentences him on July 28.

The court convicted Villagomez, James A. Santos, and Joaquina Santos of defrauding the U.S. government by conspiring to make the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. buy unnecessary supplies of a chemical.

The federal court received a total of 32 letters of support for Villagomez, including one from his wife, his children, and former colleagues in government service.

Bishop Tomas Camacho also sent a message, certifying Villagomez's good standing

in the community. Camacho said he wrote the letter at the request of Villagomez and the Santos couple.

Lawyer Kathryn Delafield, who was hired as in-house counsel for CUC by Villagomez in 1996 and worked with him until he left CUC in 2002, wants the court to consider in-home detention.

She said Villagomez has no past record of bad acts and he has young children, a wife, a mother and a family who need him in their lives.

Teacher Steve Gilles said Villagomez made mistakes, but he is also an excellent role model in many other ways and that his family has already suffered and will suffer much.

Retired U.S. Navy commander David W. Trandal said Villagomez demonstrated sound,

intelligent judgment and "I would be happy to have such an individual reside in my neighborhood and to be a neighbor."

"I am asking for leniency when you sentence Tim. Please

do not take their father away from [his children] as they do not know life without him. He is a good husband, a good man, one who is loved dearly and cherished by many," wife Margaret Keene Villagomez said in a four-page letter to U.S. District Court for CNMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson.

She said her husband is a loving and devoted son, husband and father, helping a lot of people and has impressed upon others that he can be counted upon for almost everything.



Villagomez

"One of the biggest mistakes that he has ever made, in my opinion, was that he entered the uncertain world of politics where some of the people that he helped would one day be the cause of his demise," she said.

Eldest child Renae-sha LeAnn Fleming Villagomez told the court that the decision it will make will have an impact on his family's lives.

"Our father is a person of no harm and so I kindly ask of you again to please give leniency to my father," she said.

Another daughter, Rita Villagomez, and brother Peter Michael Tenorio, made a similar appeal.

Pastor Rev. Fr. Charlie A. Borja also expressed support, say-

ing that Villagomez's mistake would teach him to be a better and stronger man of faith.

Former wife Alicia Fleming, with whom he has had four children, said, "Timothy is a great father and a very proud grandfather."

Their son, Jose Fleming Villagomez, and daughter Juanita Fleming also sent a letter of appeal.

Fleming's sister, Tania Fleming Mesa, said that Villagomez deserves a second chance to prove himself worthy of the trust and love that his friends and family have in him.

Fleming's brother, George Fleming Jr., also wrote a similar appeal as well as relative Jesus Villagomez DL Guerrero, close friend Clarence Tenorio, Pedro Sasamoto, former CPA co-employee Clyde K. Norita, nieces

Jacqueline V. Santos, and Yamin Miles, and other relatives.

Rep. Diego Benavente said Villagomez remains a respectful and modest public servant in spite of the predicament he finds himself.

Villagomez's counsel, Robert Torres, said his client is no different than other offenders in public corruption cases who have denied their gifts and talents in pursuit of brazen, if not blind, ambition.

"But Tim remains to me someone whom I care for and whom I support unequivocally and without hesitation. I stake my name and reputation as an officer of this court in writing this letter," he said.

Villagomez's 9-year old son, Timmy, wrote "If you give them probation that would be the best thing that will ever happen to me.

## Tips for viewing tomorrow's solar eclipse

Tomorrow, July 22, at approximately 10:55am until 1:30pm, one of the longest solar eclipses of the century can be viewed. The best time to witness the eclipse is at 12:13pm at which time the moon will block the sun for approximately 6 minutes and 38 seconds. However, blindness can occur if a solar eclipse is not viewed carefully.

A total solar eclipse is one of the most spectacular astronomical events. It occurs when the moon passes between the sun and the earth. For a short period of time, the sun is completely blocked out by the moon, when viewed from the earth. Day briefly turns into night, causing temperatures to drop, birds begin to roost and many animals become confused.

This spectacular event will be witnessed here in the CNMI, and while the islands are not in the direct band of total blackout or the umbrella shadow—the area where a total solar eclipse can be seen on earth is usually less than 100 kilometers in diameter—people here will be able to view a partial eclipse.

In order to view this event safely, Marianas Eye Institute has put together this helpful list of do's and don'ts.

### DON'Ts

Never look at the sun directly — doing so can damage your eyes. You should also never attempt to look at the sun in the partial eclipse phase through unprotected eyes or homemade filtering mechanisms. A partial eclipse, as will be visible here on Wednesday, is particularly dangerous, because even though the light from the sun appears dimmer, the dangerous rays of the sun can still cause permanent damage to the eyes. The best way to observe the sun is by projecting the image.

Don't use these as solar filters.

- Sunglasses
- Photographic neutral den-

sity filters

- Smoked glass
- Polarizing filters
- Compact discs
- Floppy disk media
- Black color film
- Any black and white film negatives bearing images

### DO:

#### The Pinhole Projection Method

Here is one way to project the sun's image:

1. Get two pieces of cardboard (flaps from a box, backs of paper tablets).
2. With a pin or pencil point, poke a small hole in the center of one piece (no bigger than the pin or pencil point).
3. Take one pieces in each hand.
4. Stand with your back to

the sun.

5. In one hand, hold the piece with the pinhole; place the other piece (the screen) behind it.

6. The sunlight will pass through the pinhole and form an image on the screen.

7. Adjust the distance between the two pieces to focus and change the size of the image.

Do not look through the pinhole at the sun.

### Welders' Goggles

Welders' goggles or the filters for welder's goggles with a rating of 14 or higher are safe to use for looking directly at the sun. They are also relatively inexpensive.

**Warning:** Do not attempt to use these filters behind a pair of binoculars or telescope (that is, between your eyes and the bin-

oculars or telescope). The magnifying optics of these devices will focus the full power of the Sun onto the welder's filter, which could crack and shatter from the intense heat after only a few minutes.

The safest way to view the eclipse is with the pinhole method, and welder's goggles from different parts of the world

do not always have a high level of quality control.

The pinhole method allows the safest viewing of Wednesday's partial eclipse.

Dr. David Khorram, the ophthalmologist at Marianas Eye Institute, recalled that during the last major partial solar eclipse, students from one of the schools had looked directly at the eclipse.

"Although none of the children ended up having any significant damage, it was a scary time for the children and their families waiting to see if the damage would be permanent. We look forward to this spectacular event, and hope that everyone, especially children, will use the safest techniques to view the eclipse." (PR)

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**Norma 'Normae' E. Patanao** is no longer connected with **Philpan International Corp. dba MC Asia International Corporation**; therefore any transaction made by her on behalf of the company from the date she was terminated is null and void.

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Apartment D-4 at Millers Estates in Capitol Hill was robbed at about 6-00 A.M. on July 19, 2009. Items taken:

- Toshiba Satellite Laptop Computer
- Citizen Eco-Drive Watch w/ Titanium Band
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- Black Workbag containing check books
- Green Workbag w/ initials BMM

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pro se

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of The Petition To Appoint General Guardianship For:

ADLATE HETIBACK Minor Child

By:  
Richard R. Billy and Melchy H. Billy

Petitioners

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on August 4, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 6th day of July, 2009.

Bernadita A. Sablan  
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

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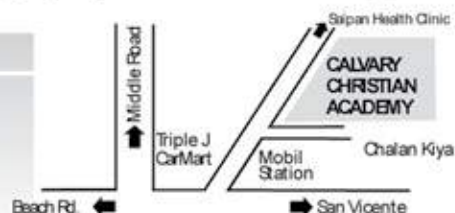


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# Villagomez files motion for release pending appeal

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.  
n\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez has asked the U.S. District

Court in the CNMI yesterday to keep him free while his appeal is pending in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

In a 12-page motion, Villagomez's lawyer, David J. Lujan, cited two main

reasons: Villagomez is neither a flight risk nor a danger to the community and the existence of appellate issues that he said should be deemed fairly debatable and substantial.

Villagomez was indicted in the Rydlyme case a year ago. He and his co-defendants, former Commerce secretary James A. Santos and wife Joaquina Santos, were found guilty on April 24, 2009. The sentencing is scheduled on July 28, 2009.

All three have remained free since their indictment.

Lujan said that given his client's background, his ties with his family and the community and his record of appearance and good conduct since

his indictment, Villagomez does not expect the government to oppose his release pending appeal on the ground that he presents a flight risk or a danger to the community.

On May 1, Villagomez filed a motion for a new trial on the grounds that he was deprived of his sixth amendment right to a fair trial by an impartial jury, a motion of judgment for acquittal, and a motion to disqualify Judge Alex. R. Munson.

The motion for a new trial and for judgment of acquittal were denied.

## Asia will witness 21st century's longest eclipse

MICHAEL CASEY  
AP ENVIRONMENTAL WRITER

**BANGKOK (AP)**—A swath starting in India and crossing Shanghai to southern Japan will be plunged into darkness for about five minutes Wednesday in the longest total solar eclipse that will happen this century.

Japan, which hasn't seen a total eclipse for 46 years, is celebrating with fireworks. An astrologer in Myanmar has warned the eclipse is a sign of impending chaos. In India, some pregnant women have been told to stay indoors to follow a centuries-old tradition of avoiding the sun's invisible rays.

The eclipse will appear first at dawn in India's Gulf of Khambhat just north of the metropolis of Mumbai.

It will move east across India, Nepal, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Bhutan and China before hitting the Pacific. The eclipse will cross some southern Japanese islands and be last visible from land at Nikumaroro Island in the South Pacific nation of Kiribati. Elsewhere, a partial eclipse will be visible in much of Asia.

For astronomers, it will be a chance for a prolonged view of the sun's corona, a white ring 600,000 miles (1 million kilometers) from the sun's surface. The previous total eclipse, in August 2008, was two minutes and 27 seconds. This one will last 6 minutes and 39 seconds at its maximum point.

Solar scientist Lucie Green is aboard an American cruise ship heading for

that point near the Japanese island of Iwo Jima, where the axis of the moon's shadow will pass closest to earth.

Passengers paid \$2,599 to \$3,643 for the cruise run by Mayhugh Travel Inc., a California company that specializes in astronomy vacations, according to the company's Web site.

"The corona has a temperature of 2 million degrees but we don't know why it is so hot," said Green of University College London. "What we are going to look for are waves in the corona. ... The waves might be producing the energy that heats the corona. That would mean we understand another piece of the science of the sun."

Scientists are hoping data from the eclipse will help explain solar flares and other structures of the sun and why they erupt, said Alphonse C. Sterling, a NASA astrophysicist who will be following the eclipse in China.

Man has been recording solar eclipses for 4,000 years, and even today they inspire a combination of fear, fascination and wonder.

One astrologer in Myanmar, also known as Burma, predicted in a magazine that the eclipse would trigger wars, instability and natural disasters for the next several months.

In India, hundreds of scientists have started arriving in the village of Taregna in Bihar state, where they hope to avoid the monsoon clouds hanging over much of the country.

Scientists plan to study atmospheric ionization, geomagnetism, asteroids,

animal and avian behavior and the impact on microorganisms.

A team led by Dr R.K. Sinha of Patna University will study birds. "The researchers will observe whether they suddenly move back to their nests, sound differently and behave in an unusual manner due to sudden darkness," he said.

A travel agency in India is running a charter flight to watch the eclipse by air.

Some families have advised pregnant relatives to confine themselves to curtained rooms, following long-held fears that the invisible rays would harm the fetus and the baby born with disfigurements, birthmarks or a congenital defect.

"I've been told to lie straight on the bed with my eyes open and to chant prayers and verses from the Hindu holy texts during the eclipse," said Sonya Chadha, a New Delhi accountant who is seven months pregnant and plans to take the day off. "If even a tiny sliver of light falls on me, it could harm my child."

In Japan, where the last total eclipse happened in 1963, people are flocking to the small island of Yakushima, which is holding a two-day festival with fireworks, dancing, grilled squid and cotton candy. The island's 180 hotels are fully booked. A partial eclipse will be visible in Tokyo.

*Associated Press writers Nirmala George in New Delhi; Indrajit Singh in Patna, India; Shino Yuasa in Tokyo and Aye Aye Win in Yangon, Myanmar contributed to this report.*

## MANAGAHA

From Page 1

"Managaha is somewhat magical, almost a focal point for the whitest sand, warmest sun, bluest skies, and richest marine life on Saipan," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio. "It's is an unforgettable experience for any visitor."

Saipan teen and MVA student intern Raquel Pelisman has been to Managaha twice.

"It's really an amazing place. The sand is so vast and white—even at night you see clearly," Pelisman said. "Moonlit volleyball is fun, and you can sleep out on the sand looking up at the stars."

Since 2004 the island has also received six acknowledgements at the annual Marine Diving Fair in Tokyo,

including being named "Best Beach & Snorkeling Spot" at the 7th Dive & Travel Awards 2008.

A few minutes on a comfortable ferry from the main island of Saipan, Managaha offers isolation in paradise from everyday life and tranquility framed by historical landmarks and tropical nature lying in wait to be explored. The Northern Mariana Islands is three hours by plane from Japan. **(PR)**

## SWINE FLU

From Page 1

completely recovered from their illnesses.

Both patients were seen last week at two local clinics for flu-like symptoms. DPH said there was no identified epidemiologic link for these cases, saying that neither individuals required hospitalization and both are doing well at home.

DPH received confirmation last Sunday that the two patients had the H1N1 virus after laboratory testing in San Antonio, Texas.

Brostrom said the Japanese tourist had been on Saipan for seven days. He did not disclose the name of the hotel.

He said the tourist was tested after his arrival on Saipan and they could not determine if he got the virus from Japan or upon his arrival on Saipan.

DPH said the situation is under control and there is no need to take drastic measures like what other

countries are doing because the department has been conducting several precautionary measures to prevent the virus' further spread.

Brostrom said there might be already existing H1N1 cases on the islands but those who had the virus might have treated the symptoms as an ordinary flu and did not bother to report it to the hospital or any clinic.

DPH said anyone who has influenza-like symptoms must see their doctor immediately.

Since January, DPH has already sent some 80 flu tests to Texas for further evaluation.

"Other cases are quite likely in the CNMI as many cases of influenza-like illnesses are reported from various clinics throughout the CNMI," DPH said in an official public health update.

The CNMI's neighboring islands of Guam, Palau and Marshall Islands have also reported confirmed H1N1 cases in the past few weeks. Guam reported five cases as of yesterday.

Brostrom said the CNMI is still

considered "fortunate" compared to other areas with large number of H1N1 cases.

He said DPH continues to emphasize flu prevention such as the Home Care Guidance, instructing patients to follow precautionary measures.

DPH briefed Gov. Benigno R. Fitial about the situation during a regular weekly meeting yesterday. DPH said Fitial expressed confidence in the government's approach to the new cases.

DPH Bio Terrorism planner Warren F. Villagomez said they have enough resources, including health workers and volunteers, to handle the situation.

Homeland Security planner Rita Chong-Dela Cruz said they are ready to provide additional funds for this if needed.

As of July 6, the World Health Organization reported 94,512 cases of H1N1 with 429 deaths around the world. These include 40,617 confirmed cases with 263 deaths in the U.S. and its territories as of July 17.

## NMC

From Page 1

Guerrero as its new director for Office of Institutional Effectiveness, the post that was recently vacated by Will Castro.

Like all employees of the college, Deleon Guerrero was provided a two-year contract.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Deleon Guerrero will be leading the college's comprehensive strategic assessment plan and working with the college leadership and other employees to assess and monitor NMC's effectiveness in achieving its mission and purposes.

Deleon Guerrero currently serves as a member of the State Board of Education. He is also a former member of the NMC Board of Regents.

"I am very excited about this opportunity to help the college fulfill its mission, goals, and objectives," said Deleon Guerrero.

NMC recently reaffirmed its four-year accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. It is set to submit its midterm report in October.

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness provides leadership and support in developing and overseeing a comprehensive and sustainable program of evaluation and feedback to enhance the effectiveness of NMC's programs and services, with special emphasis on learning outcomes.

In a statement yesterday, NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez said she is extremely pleased to appoint Deleon Guerrero to the position.

"I am extremely pleased to be mak-

ing this appointment," said Fernandez, adding that "Galvin is a seasoned educator and administrator with vision and determination as well as exceptional leadership skills."

Prior to becoming director of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Deleon Guerrero worked at Mount Carmel School, where he served as its principal for four years. He had also served the school in other roles, including director of institutional development, vice principal, and high school teacher.

"His extensive professional background makes him uniquely qualified to help our campus strengthen the link between strategic planning, program review, and resource allocation," said Fernandez. "His addition to the NMC family will definitely ensure the college's continued growth and success."

Deleon Guerrero had also been employed at the Office of the CNMI Governor, where he worked as special assistant for special projects. In that capacity he implemented former governor Juan Babauta's education initiative and assisted in planning and implementing various community projects.

He has also received numerous awards and accolades and has been involved in many professional and community organizations, including the Council for the Arts, the CNMI Council for the Humanities, and the Association of Community College Trustees. Deleon Guerrero is also known for having organized numerous theatrical productions that featured performances by Mount Carmel students.

Deleon Guerrero earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington.

## JUDICIARY'S

From Page 1

Demapan and Naraja gave the update on the loan's status in the Judiciary's budget request to House Committee on Ways and Means chair Rep. Rep. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan).

The Judicial Building Financing Act of 1994 allowed the CNMI government to secure a loan from the NMI Retirement Fund in order to build the Judicial Complex (Guma Hustisia). The maturity date of the loan is Aug. 14, 2015.

Demapan and Naraja disclosed that revenues generated by the Judiciary—used as the primary source for repayment of this loan pursuant to Public Law 7-27—have dramatically declined

in the last several years.

They said the Judiciary's average monthly collections have decreased from \$103,902 in FY 2007 to \$69,126 in FY 2009 to date.

As a result, Demapan and Naraja said, the Fund has calculated that the loan will be in default beginning May 2010.

They pointed out that the Judicial Building Financing Act of 1994 guarantees repayment from the general fund if the Legislature does not make necessary appropriations.

"We seek to work with the Legislature and the Executive Branch to find a practical solution to this issue," Demapan and Naraja added.

The construction of the Judicial Complex began in 1995. It was completed in May 1998.



# 'It's final: No accident insurance for govt employees'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund issued a final notice on Friday informing the CNMI government that its employees are not covered by the worker's compensation plan due to its continued failure to remit payments for the policy.

In his memorandum to all department and activity heads, Fund administrator Mark A.

Aguon said the government's failure to remit payments to the Workers Compensation Commission means that coverage for employees also lapsed.

Aguon disclosed that WCC records indicate that no government payments have been remitted to the government employee's self-insurance fund or the special disability fund for many years now. This failure to pay also triggers the application

of penalties and interest as mandated by law.

The Fund gives government employers (agencies) the option to be self-insured, which requires them to remit an amount equal to 1 percent of the total salaries paid but not to exceed \$1,500 and must be paid to the special disability fund quarterly.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Friday's memorandum was the third issued by the Fund,

that last two of which did not yield any positive turnout from employers.

"Notwithstanding previous demands for prompt payment, the failure to remit the appropriate funds shall not only unduly 'tax' private industry, it clearly is ground for a WCC coverage denial for any government employee who is injured on the job," Aguon said.

This lack of worker's compen-

sation coverage means that any government employee of non-contributing employers who is injured will not be insured.

## Ignorance of obligation

This failure to make the required payments in turn forces the private industry to shoulder the burden and acts as an indirect tax on private employers and carriers, Aguon said.

"As former scions of private industry, the central government's individual decision-makers cannot claim ignorance of this obligation. Prompt payments may prospectively remedy this situation, yet does not remove the coverage gap which exists for any current nonpayment of this legal obligation," Aguon said.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that any employer with at least 200 employees may elect to be self-insured.

According to Public Law 16-32, government employers of less than 200 employees still retain a duty to obtain WCC policy coverage.

"Currently, no payments have been received nor policies filed with the WCC," Aguon said.

Under the special disability fund, each employer shall contribute \$10,000 for the death of an employee resulting from an injury.

Employers who fail to remit or make payments into the special disability fund or the self-insurance fund shall be assessed a penalty of 10 percent per month, or a fraction of the amount unpaid not to exceed 50 percent in the aggregate plus interest of 12 percent per annum.

# One kidney doctor coming to CHC next month

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

House Committee on Health, Education, and Welfare Chairman Rep. Ralph Torres yesterday said a full-time kidney doctor is expected to be hired next month as Department of Public Health officials vowed to be more aggressive in recruiting doctors.

In an interview, Torres said it was agreed during Friday's emergency meeting with acting Public Health Secretary John Tagabuel and other public health officials that they will pour more effort into recruiting doctors for the Commonwealth Health Center.

"They will follow up more on the head hunters or the one that hires the doctors," he said.

The lawmaker said one full-time nephrologists or kidney doctor will come on board at CHC in August.

Torres said public officials will provide him a full report on Wednesday on how to address the shortage of doctors.

During the meeting, public health officials disclosed that CHC has had no full-time nephrologist since April 2009 when the last doctor left.

They also stated that many doctors, mostly Canadian, have been leaving the hospital in the past three years.

With respect to its dialysis center, Torres said they want to make sure that it will be fully functional in two months.

Torres said he and his research assistant toured the dialysis center yesterday morning and were impressed at the changes made to the reverse osmosis system for dialysis patients.

Torres said there are currently two full-time doctors and two part-time doctors at CHC's emergency section. For the meantime, CHC will be looking for doctors on island to assist, part-time, in the emergency section, he added.

Torres called for the urgent meeting with public health officials after receiving complaints of a severe lack of doctors at the hospital, lack of compassion for patients, and failure to attend to patients.

He said they are not just asking questions but also trying to find ways and means to address problems at CHC.

"If it is funding, then DPH should address that issue. They should come to us, let us know what they need, how much they

need, and what they need it for, and be specific in their requests," he said.

Torres said he and other committee members will continue to seek solution to address the issues.

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IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on July 21st, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before July 21st.

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SINCE CALENDAR YEAR 2008:

# 37 legislative initiatives filed at Legislature

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A total of 37 legislative initiatives have been introduced and offered on both floors of the CNMI House of Representatives and the Senate since last year.

Of this number, 24 initiatives came from the House, while 13 originated from the Senate, according to the Rep. Tina Sablan yesterday.

Based on the updated status table provided by the Legislature, only one has made it through the House—the initiative authored by Rep. Heinz

Hofschneider to allow the CNMI government to borrow \$200 million as payment for the NMI Retirement Fund.

The rest of the initiatives were either pre-filed, defeated, or calendared.

Besides the bond proposal, Hofschneider also offered six other initiatives, including amending the law that created the Department of Public Lands, leasehold interest in private lands, public debt limitation, annual budget, legislative branch, and retirement obligation.

House Floor Leader Joseph Camacho comes next with five

initiative proposals: governor's emergency powers, government boards and commissions, mandatory Commonwealth address and budget submittal, reprieves and commutations of pardons, and Marianas Visitors Authority annual budget.

Rep. Stanley Torres notched one in his name when he introduced an initiative to establish a judiciary commission, while Rep. Frank Dela Cruz authored the proposal to make the attorney general position elective.

Rota's representative to the House, Rep. Victor Hocog, offered two legislative initia-

tives on the restrictions on alienation of land, legislative immunity, and to increase the terms of members of both House and Senate.

Rep. Justo Quitugua offered an initiative last year proposing to amend the composition of the Board of Education while Rep. Ray N. Yumul wants election of the chief justice and presiding judge by majority of judges and justices.

Rep. Diego Benavente also contributed two initiatives: to prohibit the withdrawal of any funds from the general fund except for appropriation made by

law, as well as the merging of the CNMI general election with that of the nonvoting delegate to U.S. Congress.

Another lawmaker, Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero, offered the proposals to authorize the DPL to reserve 20 percent of its operational expense to pay and satisfy land claims and to authorize the CNMI to issue pension obligation bonds.

According to Rep. Sablan, the only initiative on the ballot so far—which proposes to apply the Open Government Act to the Legislature—would require, among other things, public notices and agendas for legislative

meetings, and access to legislative public records, with very narrow exceptions.

The Legislature, she said, has been exempt from the Act since 1994 and the citizen-driven effort to place this initiative on the ballot began in June 2007.

Records from the Legislature also showed that of the 13 initiatives offered at the Senate, seven of them were passed by the members.

Six of the 13 initiatives were authored by Senate President Pete Reyes; Sen. Luis Crisostimo, 3; Maria Frica Pangelinan, 2; Sen. Paul Manglona, 1; and Sen. Jude Hofschneider, 1.



## TEACHEREAD GRADUATES

Fourteen infant and toddler caregivers recently completed a 12-hour Teacheread Story Sharing course co-sponsored by the NMI Council for the Humanities and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Child Care Program. Pictured above are the participants and their instructors at a graduation ceremony held at the San Antonio Manhoben Center last Saturday. Front row, from left: Teresita Dela Rosa, Jocelyn San Nicolas, Eloisa San Nicolas, Evangelina Garcia, Amorjolita Borja, Flordeliza Flores, Novelita Galvez, and O' Rania Sikayun. Back row, from left: Diomedes Lenon, Margie Binuya, Abigail Almo, Anita Delgado, Glenda Pascua, Motherhead trainer Maribel Loste, Julie Lacanlale, and Motherhead trainer Bryan Manabat.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Saipan municipal council honors probation, parole officers

By **NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.**  
n\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The 10<sup>th</sup> Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council has adopted a resolution honoring the CNMI's community corrections professionals for their vital role in making the Commonwealth a safer place.

Council chairwoman Antonia M. Tudela handed over the copy of the resolution to Board of Parole chair Ramon B. Camacho and Chief Parole Officer Lee Guerrero during the proclamation signing of the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Officers' Week last July 17 at the CNMI Supreme Court.

Camacho is also the vice chairman of the municipal council.

In its resolution, the council said it recognizes the vital role probation and parole officers play in getting victims and offenders integrated to the larger society through multi-faceted community corrections strategies.

"Community corrections is a contributing factor in the suc-

cess of the criminal justice system in the Commonwealth," the resolution stated.

The council said these correction professionals are expected to uphold the law with honor and dignity and recognize the public's right to be protected from potential and actual criminal activities.

Working closely with other agencies and organizations, the correction professionals promote prevention, intervention and advocacy for victims and offenders.

The council said that they provide a positive change in the community.

A weeklong exhibit about their jobs and their activities are going on at the Supreme Court atrium, in connection with the annual Probation and Parole Officers' Week from July 19 to 25.

Also joining the exhibit are various service providers that include the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Karidat Social Services, Community Guidance Center, and Division of Youth Services, among others.

## OBP donates \$1,000 to CNMI Museum

By **NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.**  
n\_rodriguez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Off the Beaten Path turned over to the CNMI Museum last Friday a \$1,000 donation that was part of the funds raised during the Made in the Marianas Festival.

The festival, which aimed to showcase indigenous products created with the ingenuity, imagination, and originality of local artists, was held on June 24 at the museum grounds.

Close to 20 different vendors participated in the event, which was organized by members of the OBP, a local non-profit group whose members are committed to raising funds for various charitable causes. Previous beneficiaries include the Commonwealth Health Center Vol-

unteers, Guma Esperanza, and other charitable organizations.

"We are really happy with the turnout of the first Made in the Marianas Festival and look forward to hosting the next one," said OBP president Frankie Eliptico. "Attendees of the festival were charmed by locally produced fashion accessories, crafts, garments, gifts, and other products found uniquely in the Marianas."

He said the festival enticed visitors into trying delectable local dishes and beverages and introduced the community to the concept of buying foods and products that are made locally, which in turn helps build sustainable communities.

Besides showcasing local artists' work and products, the festival sought to heighten awareness

and appreciation of the CNMI Museum and its cultural and historic importance.

During the festival, visitors perused the exhibits and displays currently featured at the CNMI Museum of History and Culture. A portion of the proceeds from the event was donated to the Museum and the planning of OBP's next event to benefit the CNMI Autism Society.

Museum director Robert Hunter thanked the OBP for the donation and for holding their activity at the museum grounds.

"We are very glad that they considered us for this significant donation," he said. The fund will be used for exhibit materials and office supplies.

Hunter is inviting other organizations to also hold their activities there.



NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Members of the Off The Beaten Path turn over a \$1,000 donation to CNMI Museum staff Evelyn Diaz on Friday. The money was raised from the first Made in the Marianas Festival last month.



# Relocation of adult biz to Middle Road to be delayed

The implementation of the Middle Road Adult Overlay Zone will be delayed while the Zoning Office looks at other options, according to Zoning Administrator Victor Barrett.

Barrett said there may be better options for local residents and the business community, and he has several concerns

## CONTACT INFO

### Zoning Administrator Victor Barrett

■ Tel: 287-5221

■ E-mail: victor.barrett@zoning.mp.gov

about requiring adult businesses to relocate to this zone.

"This is a developing area with a very diverse mix of residential and commercial uses that is a main thoroughfare for the community," he said. "The proposed district incorporates

## Zoning process being simplified

The process for getting zoning approval for businesses wishing to renew or open new businesses in existing buildings has been greatly simplified.

"The vast majority of new and existing businesses, even home businesses, which are to be located in buildings throughout the island can be cleared for a business license by Zoning on the same day," said Zoning Administrator Victor Barrett yesterday.

Barrett said his office now has three full time zoning officers—Marian Mafnas,

Anicia Tomokane, and Dewayne Duenas—in addition to the office's planner, Therese Ogu-moro, who are available every day from 8am to 12pm and from 1pm to 4pm to work with applicants. The office also has a new full time administrative processing person, Bing Taitano.

According to Barrett, when he officially took over the position on June 22, there was a large backlog of pending requests due to the departure of staff and resignation of the former administrator, which

left only two Zoning officers to deal with new applications and all administrative duties.

"We are moving through the backlog quickly and have issued over 100 permits in the last two weeks," said Barrett.

"Our department will first look for a way to say yes to an application, and work with the client to find a workable solution to any issues with the code that may arise. I am looking to the businesses of our island to help us create a more workable and adaptable code. ... We are a unique island and should build on what we have created so far

to craft an "Island Style" Zoning Code that can be a model example for all of Micronesia. A well thought through zoning code can be an invaluable tool to aid in implementing the vision for a better future for residents and businesses alike, and to help attract quality investment. It needs to be flexible enough to change as social, economic, and environmental circumstances warrant."

Barrett is seeking input from all interested business owners and may be reached at 287-5221, or by email at victor.barrett@zoning.mp.gov. **(PR)**

more community- and business-friendly adult entertainment district alternative. I believe we can put forth a very viable proposal. By creating an attractive alternative, not only will businesses do better, but the community will benefit from a more tourist- and family-friendly downtown," Barrett said. "As businesses see the advantage to moving to The District, I truly believe that the value of the buildings in Garapan will increase, attracting quality developer interest. This will allow us to move forward with the recently completed Garapan & Beach Road Revitalization Plan."

Barrett is seeking input from all interested business owners and may be reached at 287-5221, or by e-mail at victor.barrett@zoning.mp.gov. **(PR)**

both sides of a four-lane high-speed roadway that has no sidewalks or adequate provision for pedestrians. This situation creates the potential for a dangerous mix of late-night revelers walking along and crossing the

street alongside high-speed vehicle traffic."

The only other proposal received to date—renovating the old Fiesta Mall—had some of the same drawbacks, Barrett said, most notably the distance

from downtown Garapan, and the proximity to As Matuis Village and the popular Poupau Beach.

"In addition, this north-island location would require patrons to drive back to hotels

late at night after an evening of drinking. ... I think people drink in these places, don't they?" Barrett added.

"I will be speaking to as many businesses as possible to discuss the idea of a safer and

## Consumer counsel: Beware of e-mail scams

Last week a CNMI resident forwarded to the Office of the Attorney General an unsolicited e-mail she received in her Gmail account.

The e-mail claims that the resident won £500,000.00 GBP (British pounds sterling), which is about \$820,000 in a claimed "Google Promotion."

According to an OAG statement, this is a variation of a known scam. In this e-mail, the sender is attempting to open a dialogue to get the resident to

cooperate with the scammer. The scammer has chosen a familiar name (Google) to help earn the resident's trust. (The resident uses Gmail.) Also, the use of Google, a wealthy company, adds credibility to the scam. It likely will not end well if the resident chooses to continue to talk with the scammer. The scammer will attempt stealing the resident's identity or money or both.

"If something seems too good to be true, it probably is" is

an old saying, but it is still valid," consumer counsel Michael Ernest said. "On the Internet, if someone says you won a contest you didn't enter, hit 'delete' as fast as you can."

The resident stated she had contacted the sender to seek more information. This is a bad idea, the OAG said. Scammers are violating numerous CNMI and federal laws and prey on the trusting and unsuspecting.

"These people are far from harmless. They are criminals,

## CONTACT INFO

The Office of the Attorney General has established a new e-mail address that consumers may use to contact the consumer counsel. The address is cnmioag.consumer@yahoo.com.

If you have any questions, contact the Office of the Attorney General at the above e-mail address or at 664-2341.

and residents should not deal with scammers at all. You should avoid them and not communicate with them, even to gather information for law en-

forcement," Ernest said.

Because most of these scammers operate from different countries, it is very difficult for law enforcement to catch them after they have stolen a person's money. "Unfortunately, it is very improbable that the authorities would be able to help get a victim's money back. The best protection is not to get scammed in the first place," Ernest said.

The Office of the Attorney General would like to remind residents of the CNMI to be wary of providing personal or financial information to unknown people on the Internet. **(OAG)**

## USCG crew collects 32 tons of marine debris from Hawaii marine monument

By **ENSIGN LINDEN DAHLKEM-PER**  
U.S. COAST GUARD CUTTER WALNUT

**Editor's Note:** Ensign Linden Dahlkemper is a junior officer assigned aboard the Walnut.

**HONOLULU**—While many Americans enjoyed their 4th of July holiday with picnics and parties, the crew of the U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Walnut* and some federal government partners continued an effort to clean up the ocean and reefs of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

The *Walnut's* crew returned Sunday night from a three-week multi-agency debris removal effort in the remote Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

The crew of the *Walnut*, a 225-foot buoy tender home ported in Honolulu, partnered with NOAA and the U.S. Army's 7th Engineer Dive Team to remove more than 32 tons of derelict fishing nets and other refuse from the coral reefs in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

"It was a busy 4th of July for *Walnut's* crew but it's great that we can come to such a historic place and help make a difference by removing the marine debris



U.S. COAST GUARD PHOTO

The crew of the Coast Guard cutter *Walnut* partners with NOAA and the U.S. Army's 7th Engineer Dive Team to remove more than 32 tons of derelict fishing nets and other refuse from the coral reefs in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, Saturday, July 4, 2009. The *Walnut's* crew departed June 21, for a 2,900-mile multi-mission trip to Maro Reef, Kure and Midway Atoll. One of their goals was to remove as much marine debris as possible from the waters surrounding the monument using the ship's crane, lift bags and divers.

collected by refuge personnel and help out by removing nets from the nearby islands," said Cmdr. Jeffrey Randall, commanding officer of the *Walnut*.

The *Walnut's* crew departed June 21, for a 2,900-mile multi-mission trip to Maro Reef, Kure and Midway Atoll. One of the crew's goals was to remove as much marine debris as possible from the waters surrounding the monument using the ship's crane, lift bags and divers.

"Protecting our natural resources is one of the Coast Guard's many missions," said Eric Roberts, the marine protected species program manager for the 14th Coast Guard District, headquartered in Honolulu.

"America's marine waters and their ecosystems are vital to the health, well-being and economy of the nation. For this reason, the Coast Guard's role in carrying out the nation's mandates to protect our marine environment

is of vital importance."

Lt. Tony Perry of the NOAA Corps was aboard the *Walnut* during the "marine debris recovery patrol" and estimates that 52 metric tons of debris enters the monument each year.

"Recovery efforts like this patrol help remove this accumulated debris and protect the coral reefs and endangered species found within the monument," Perry said.

On Monday, July 13, the cutter crew will offload the debris in Honolulu Harbor and transfer it to containers on the pier, which will then be picked up by Schnitzer Steel Corporation, which will shred the debris. The trash will then be converted into energy by the Hawaiian Electric Company at its co-generation plant.

NOAA's Pacific Island Fisheries Science Center's Coral Reef Ecosystem Division provided technical support using geographical information systems to survey, locate and provide expertise on removing marine debris. The NOAA representatives created daily survey plans, recommended navigation to the specified reefs and directed Coast Guard divers in debris surveys and data collection procedures.

In addition to the *Walnut's* marine debris recovery efforts, the cutter was engaged in a two-week law enforcement patrol of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. A Coast Guard C-130 air crew recently documented a vessel suspected of illegally fishing within a special preservation area of the monument.

"Papahānaumokuākea is considered a sacred place and protecting it is very important to both the Coast Guard and the people of Hawaii," said Roberts. "Our patrol efforts are making a difference, and we will continue to provide a persistent presence throughout the region."

The monument was established three years ago and it is the world's largest fully protected marine conservation area. NOAA co-manages the monument's resources in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the state of Hawaii.

More than 540 metric tons of debris has been removed from the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands since 1996.

The *Walnut's* crew also delivered supplies to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel at the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge. **(USCG)**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**  
**BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff,**  
**vs.**  
**MANASSES S. BORJA, Defendant.**  
**CIVIL CASE NO. 98-0223A**  
**NOTICE OF SALE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that, pursuant to the Order Following Status Conference and Order to Auction Real Property, dated July 6, 2009, issued by The Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Defendant Manasses S. Borja's reversionary interest in Lot 099 E 1, located in Talofofo, Saipan, will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, on terms and conditions set forth herein below.

**Date, Time and Place of Sale.** The Sale will be held on Friday, July 24, 2009, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. at the Law Offices of O'Connor Berman Dotts & Banes, Second Floor, Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

**Inspection of Property.** The property described as Lot 99 E 01, (formerly known as AH 268) as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 099 E 01, the original of which was recorded 19 Dec 89 as Document No. 89-4295 at Commonwealth Recorder's Saipan. It may be viewed and inspected one day prior to the sale. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute the basis for any claim, adjustment, or rescission of the auction sale. Schedule of inspection can be made before July 22, 2009, by calling O'Connor Berman Dotts & Banes with Telephone No. (670) 234-5684 and Fax No. (670) 234-5683.

**Warranties and Covenants.** The property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff may give any warranty or covenant express or implied for the property listed for sale in this Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Notice, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any remedy on account thereof.

**Conduct of Sale.**  
A) **Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the laws, of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: 1) to withdraw the property listed for sale in this Notice before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted; 2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before the property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and 3) to reject any or all bids for any reason.  
B) **Bids.** Bids may be submitted in advance. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered to the office of O'Connor Berman Dotts & Banes. The bidder assumes all risk. Any person, including the Plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such person has submitted an advance bid.  
C) **Payment.** The successful bidder shall pay the purchase price to the undersigned immediately after the sale is consummated.  
D) **Change of Terms and Conditions.** The undersigned and the Plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

Dated, this 7th of July, 2009

/s/ O'Connor Berman Dotts & Banes,  
Court-Appointed Auctioneer



# Tuvalu: All energy renewable by 2020

MICHAEL CASEY  
AP ENVIRONMENTAL WRITER

**BANGKOK (AP)**—The tiny island nation of Tuvalu, already under threat from rising seas caused by global warming, has vowed to do its part for climate change by fueling its economy entirely from renewable sources by 2020.

The South Pacific nation of 12,000 people is part of a movement of countries and cities committed to going climate neutral. Since February 2008, 10 nations including New Zealand, Pakistan, Iceland and Costa Rica have vowed to reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases as part of a goal of reaching zero emissions in the next decade.

None of these commitments alone is expected to make a significant difference in the fight to cut heat-trapping gases. But the United Nations and many environmentalists say the moves can inspire bigger emitters like the United States and China to take bolder steps to limit their carbon footprints.

"In a sense, they are paving the way for medium and larger economies which have to move if we are going combat climate change," said Nick Nuttal, spokesman for the United Nations Environment Programme. It sponsors the Climate Neutral Network, a group of 100 governments, nongovernment groups and companies looking to cut their greenhouse gas emissions. "These smaller economies are out to prove you can do it, and do it faster than some people previously thought."

Major polluters at the Group of Eight nations' summit earlier this month failed to agree on commitments to reduce carbon emissions. That indicates how difficult it will be to craft a new climate treaty later this year in



In this 2009 handout photo released by e8, solar panels are set up at a stadium in Funafuti, Tuvalu. The tiny island nation of Tuvalu, already under threat from rising seas caused by global warming, vowed Sunday to do its part for climate change by fueling its economy entirely from renewable sources by 2020.

Copenhagen, Denmark, one that would be a successor to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol.

Climate scientists have urged rich countries to reduce emissions from 2005 levels by between 25 percent and 40 percent by 2020 to avoid the worst effects of warming, which they say will lead to widespread drought, floods, higher sea levels and worsening storms.

For its part, Tuvalu hopes to replace the fossil fuels that it imports by ship with solar energy and wind power, a project that it expects will cost \$20 million.

Tuvalu already releases almost no greenhouse gases. But because of climate change, many South Pacific islands see worsening flooding amid predictions of a large sea level rise this century.

The country is just 10 square miles (26 square kilometers)

in size, with most of its land less than a yard (meter) above sea level.

So far, Tuvalu has installed a 40 kilowatt solar energy system with the help of Japan's Kansai Electric Power Co. and Tokyo Electric Power Company, both members of the e8, an international nonprofit organization of 10 leading power utilities from G8 countries.

"There may be other, larger solar power installations in the world, but none could be more meaningful to customers than this one," Takao Shiraishi, general manager of the Kansai Electric Power Co., said in a statement Sunday.

"The plight of Tuvalu versus the rising tide vividly represents the worst early consequence of climate change," he added. "For Tuvalu, after 3,000 years of history, the success of U.N. climate

talks in Copenhagen this December may well be a matter of national survival."

The Tuvalu government is working to expand the initial \$410,000 project from 40 to 60 kilowatts, and will extend solar power to outer islands, starting later this year with the commission of a \$800,000, 46 kilowatt solar power system for a secondary school. The Italian government is supporting the project.

"We thank those who are helping Tuvalu reduce its carbon footprint as it will strengthen our voice in those international negotiations," Public Utilities and Industries Minister Kau-sea Natano said in a statement. "And we look forward to the day when our nation offers an example to all—powered entirely by natural resources such as the sun and the wind."



## PACIFIC BRIEFS

### France leaves Fiji out of Pacific summit

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand (R)**—France has snubbed Fiji by not inviting its interim regime to this month's summit with Pacific leaders in New Caledonia. The summit will be the third in six years and will this year be chaired by the French foreign minister, Bernard Kouchner, standing in for Nicolas Sarkozy who was earlier expected to be the host. When France held the inaugural gathering in French Polynesia in 2003, a plane was dispatched from Tahiti to Suva to pick up the Fiji prime minister, Laisenia Qarase, for the day. The New Zealand foreign minister, Murray McCully, is likely to miss the Noumea summit because of a conflict of dates, with the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group due to meet in London at the same time to consider Fiji's full suspension. Fiji has already been suspended from the Pacific Islands Forum over the interim regime's refusal to relinquish power this year by holding an election three years after the last coup.

### Regional waste management plan aired in Apia

**APIA, Samoa (Samoa Observer/PIR)**—A 10-year solid waste management strategy for the Pacific region is under review in Apia.

Adopted in September 2005, by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme members, this strategy is now under the microscope, being evaluated by Pacific countries and territories. The vision of the solid waste management strategy is "A healthy and a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable Pacific for future generations." The goal of the strategy is for the "Pacific island countries and territories to adopt cost-effective and self sustaining solid waste management systems to minimize the negative effects on public health, the environment, the economy and way of life."

### 7.8 New Zealand quake triggers alerts

**MELBOURNE, Australia (Radio Australia/PIR)**—A powerful 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck off the southwest coast of New Zealand last Wednesday triggering alerts from tsunami warning centers in Hawaii and Australia. The US Geological Survey reports the epicenter of the undersea quake was located about 160 kilometers west of the city of Invercargill, on South Island, at a depth of about 35 kilometers. There were no casualties or major damage. The Hawaii-based Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre says a low-level tsunami

was generated near the epicenter, but later cancelled its warning, saying the waves no longer pose a threat. The Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre has cancelled its warning for the south-east coast of Australia, Norfolk Island and Lord Howe Island.

### Sorcery fears lead to arrests in Fiji

**MELBOURNE, Australia (Radio Australia/PIR)**—Australia's Foreign Affairs Department says eight Australians spent a night in a Fiji prison this week over a meeting of the Freemasons society. Freemasonry is a fraternal organisation that arose from obscure origins—thought to be occupation-based—in the late 16th to early 17th century. Its meetings include historic rituals. The Australians, who have since been released, were among a group of 14 held in Fiji, reportedly, on suspicion of sorcery. It is understood Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama granted the men an official pardon. The Australian Foreign Affairs Department says the group was detained in relation to the convening of a Masonic meeting without the correct permit. Police raided their Freemasons meeting after calls from frightened residents suspecting witchcraft. The group was held at Nadi police station for 24 hours.

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 21, 1999

### Court dismisses class action suit

Convinced that the plaintiffs' identities must be revealed, the U.S. District Court has dismissed the class action suit filed anonymously by 23 alien workers against Saipan's garment factories. "Fairness dictates that defendants not be constrained to defend against the unknown," District Court Judge Alex Munson stated in an order released Monday. Munson said the plaintiffs, identified only as "Does I-XXIII," failed to convince the court that they had sufficient claims to support anonymous proceedings.

### PSS bats for \$48 million

Asking for a budget level that is more than what the administration said it can afford may be a struggle against defeat, but education officials are keeping their fingers crossed. At yesterday's Board of Education meeting, officials agreed to try to convince the Legislature that the Public School System needs to get \$48 million for fiscal year 2000. Education officials will appear at today's budget hearing to present their proposal to members of the House Ways and Means Committee chaired by Rep. Karl T. Reyes.

July 21, 2000

### Omnibus bill OK'd

Holding back-to-back sessions early last night, the Legislature finally cleared a compromise proposal on the Omnibus Labor and Business Reform Act which both houses hammered out with the Tenorio administration. HB 12-39 now heads to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio for his signature, five months since the legislation, sponsored by Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, was introduced in the lower house as one of its key economic measures. A bicameral conference committee met earlier yesterday prior to the special sessions to iron out differences following House's rejection of the Senate amendment to the bill. Its final passage was pushed late into the day as the executive branch considered the changes, while the House rounded up members to reach the required quorum of at least 10 representatives.

### Flat tax rate proposed

The House of Representatives yesterday began the process of reforming the islands' taxation system with a bill introduced by Speaker Benigno R. Fitial seeking to implement a flat tax rate scheme similar to those being proposed in the U.S. Congress. This will help revamp the current local tax code which lawmakers describe as "complex, inefficient, unfriendly to the creation of new jobs and business, punitive to existing workers and businesses, and unfair in its multiple tax rate structure." Although a comprehensive overhaul and simplification of the CNMI's taxation system, specifically on a flat income tax, will require consent of Congress, the initial steps will provide significant reforms and ease complexities in other local taxes.

July 21, 2003

### CDC: NMI has 2 new AIDS cases

The CNMI has recorded two cases of AIDS this year, based on a latest report by the U.S. Centers for Disease and Prevention. In its July 4, 2003, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, the Atlanta-based CDC listed two cumulative AIDS cases for the CNMI under 2003. The figures, according to CDC, are updated monthly from reports to the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention-Surveillance and Epidemiology, National Center for HIV, STD, and TB prevention. The last update on the AIDS cases report was on May 25, 2003, the MMWR said. The January 2003 MMWR report indicated no reported cases of AIDS in the CNMI. For 2002, CDC listed "unavailable" data on AIDS cases here. DPH officials were not immediately available for comments.

### HPMR, Hawaii hospitals lift suspension

It's back to normal for the Group Health and Life Insurance subscribers who are seeking off-island medical treatment. NMI Retirement Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes confirmed the good news Friday, saying that Group Health's third-party administrator, Hawaii Pacific Medical Referral, has lifted the suspension of the pre-certification for members-a ne-cessary process for subscribers so that they would not be asked to pay up-front when they go to an on-island or off-island hospital. Reyes said that HPMR lifted the suspension effective July 1. This means that all participating hospitals in Hawaii and Guam will resume accepting patients from the CNMI without requiring them to pay out of their own pockets.



# 300 youths gather at Pacific Youth Festival

**SUVA, Fiji**—About 300 young people from around the region gathered last week in Suva, Fiji, for the 2nd Pacific Youth Festival, which ran from July 11 to 18.

The festival was launched on the morning of July 11 when youth delegates from 14 participating Pacific Island countries and territories, wearing colorful Pacific prints, marched through the streets of Suva to an opening ceremony held at Albert Park, on the edge of the city center.

The president of Fiji, Ratu Josefa Iloilovatu Uluivuda, officially opened the festival during a ceremony that included a traditional Fijian welcome and cultural performances from many different Pacific delegations.

President of the Fiji Youth Festival Alumni 2006, Jacob Itautoka, presented the resolutions from the 1st Pacific Youth Festival that was held in Tahiti, French Polynesia, in 2006.

The aspirations, issues and concerns raised by young people

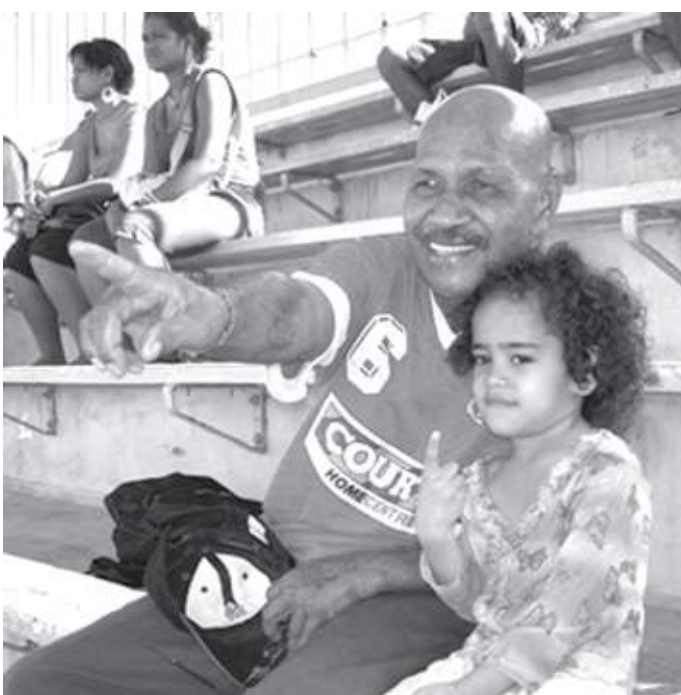
in 2006 are captured in the Pacific Youth Strategy 2010.

Itautoka said young people are taking the lead in youth development by involving themselves in processes aimed at finding solutions to their problems.

The festival aimed to bring young people in the region together to discuss, share and highlight youth concerns and youth programs that address these concerns.

A youth delegate from Papua New Guinea, Mavis Tito, said she hopes to find out if young people from all Pacific nations are facing the same challenges as in her country.

"I expect to learn and participate in the program of good governance and finding youth identity," Tito said. "All nations have their own issues but I am hoping to find out if the challenges faced by youths [in other countries] are the same as in my country and see if there is a good solution to take back [home]."



SPC  
Felise Colati and his granddaughter Makaela, 4, watch the opening ceremony of the Pacific Youth Festival at Albert Park in Suva.

Another PNG youth delegate, Nathan Hukula believed the festival highlighted the role that globalization is playing in the

lives of Pacific young people.

"Globalization is affecting how the youth in our communities are behaving. Young

people are challenged to strike a balance between culture and modernization. [The festival] gave us a chance to discuss and strengthen ideas and put our cultural differences aside," Hukula said.

A representative of the Banaban Group from Kiribati, Eriuta Hiwi, agreed that the festival showed the unity of Pacific nations and helped boost the morale of young people.

"It gave youth the chance to adopt good values as they are often blamed for many problems," Hiwi said. "This festival really helped to change the mindsets of youth in the Pacific region."

The theme of the 2nd Pacific Youth Festival was "Actioning the youth agenda." Discussions focused on promoting healthy living, Pacific identity, climate change adaptation, and governance, peace and security.

PICTs that participated in the festival were American Samoa, Cook Islands, Feder-

ated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna. Student delegations from French Polynesia and New Caledonia also traveled to the festival.

The Pacific Youth Festival is a weeklong event held every three years. The first festival attracted 1,000 participants from 24 PICTs as well as Australia and New Zealand. It focused on nine themes, including education and training, social and professional integration, sustainable development, cultural diversity, health, equality, peace promotion, active citizenship and good governance.

The main events at the festival include presentations, panel discussions and workshops on various youth issues. The festival also facilitates inter-regional communication and network building opportunities. Side events include cultural performances and sports. (SPC)



## LAS VEGAS NIGHT

Players place their bet in one of the Blackjack tables during the Rotary Club of Saipan Las Vegas Night on Saturday at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.



## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to Jesse Joe Babauta, who is celebrating his special day today. May you enjoy your day with laughter and fun with all the joyous moments you will have. God bless and may you have more birthdays to come. You're the greatest! Rumspringa! Greetings coming out from Mom, Dad, Jo, Ana, Kiki and da familia.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings go out to Reinabel C. Baltazar, who's turning 4 today, July 21. She is shown here with her father, Ranulfo Baltazar. Greetings come from Papa Rannie, Mama Isabel, and Tita Cla-cla.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Men and women alike enjoy playing craps during the Rotary Club of Saipan Last Vegas Night on Saturday at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.



## VANDALS DESTROY TOURISM!

This mural is located at the south wall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. You can see this when you go to the beach coming from the corner to Coral Tree Avenue and Orchid Street in Garapan. Before, most tourist divers would stop here to take some souvenir pictures. Now, they seldom do because this beautiful mural became ugly due to vandalism!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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## EDITORIAL

### A letter from Europe

Twenty years have passed since the revolutions that restored freedom to what had been the captive nations of Central and Eastern Europe. That many Americans no longer give much thought to that part of the world testifies, in part, to the region's success. The eastward expansion of NATO and the European Union helped bring security, stability and growing prosperity; more important, the countries themselves have nurtured democratic and free-market institutions that in 1989 would have seemed unreachable.

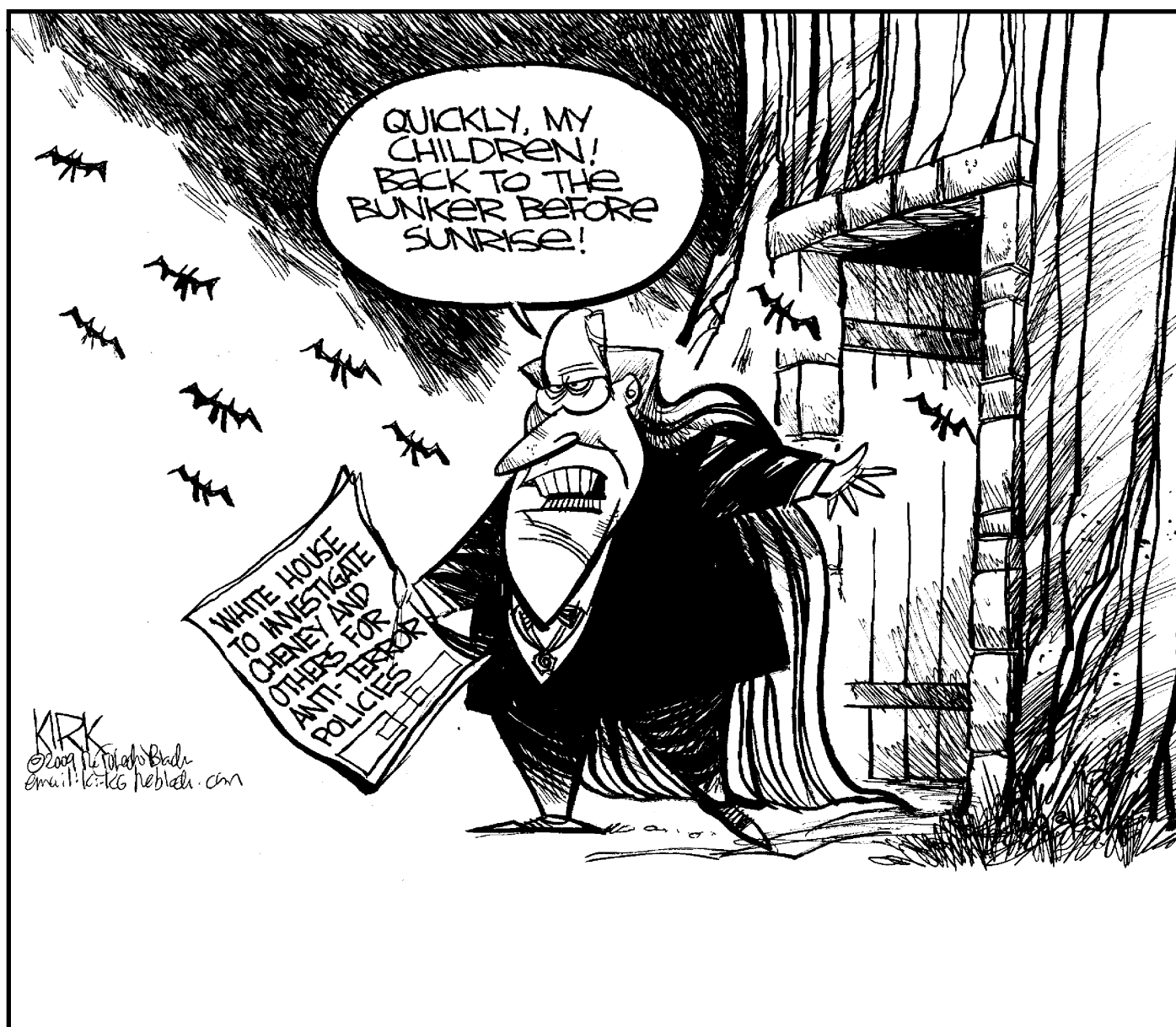
Yet an impressive collection of former presidents and ministers from the first two decades of post-communism warn, in a letter released last week, that long-lasting success should not be assumed. "All is not well either in our region or in the transatlantic relationship," they caution. Since the signatories are staunch allies of the United States and of democracy—ranging from Vaclav Havel and Alexandr Vondra of the Czech Republic to Lech Walesa and Alexander Kwasniewski of Poland to Vaira Vike-Freiberga of Latvia and Valdas Adamkus of Lithuania—they merit a hearing.

The global recession has given room to "nationalism, extremism, populism, and anti-Semitism" in some of their countries, the former leaders acknowledge. At the same time, they say, "NATO today seems weaker than when we joined" while "Russia is back as a revisionist power pursuing a 19th-century agenda with 21st-century tactics and methods. ... The danger is that Russia's creeping intimidation and influence-peddling in the region could over time lead to a de facto neutralization of the region."

In response, they say, the Obama administration should recommit to NATO as a defense alliance, not just an expeditionary force with duties in Afghanistan and beyond. It should support pipelines that will diminish the region's dependence on Russian oil and gas. It should take care, as it evaluates planned missile-defense installations in Poland and the Czech Republic that Russia opposes, to consult closely with the governments that have the most at stake. It should invest in relationships with younger generations that do not remember communism or the struggle against it.

None of this will come as news to President Obama, who has made clear, in Moscow and elsewhere, that the United States will not recognize a privileged Russian sphere of influence in the former Soviet Union or Warsaw Pact. Vice President Joe Biden, who first delivered that message for the administration in a speech in Munich in February, presumably will reiterate it during his upcoming visit to Ukraine and Georgia. The administration nonetheless should take the letter to heart, not as a rebuke but as encouragement. Nations clamoring for a stronger U.S. relationship, built on the ideals of freedom and alliance, are not so numerous that Washington can afford to take them for granted.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post



### A pledge to honor in Iraq

By MARK HANIS and CHAD HAZLETT  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

While visiting Iraq over the July 4th weekend, Vice President Joe Biden told Iraqi leaders that "if Iraq returned to ethnic violence, the United States would be unlikely to remain engaged," according to the New York Times. A U.S. official told the Times that Biden explained by saying "because one, the American people would have no interest in doing that, and as he put it, neither would he or the president."

Such a statement may have made a certain tactical sense, signaling to Iraqis that their security forces are on their own, but it was the wrong way to send this message. It tells militants that targeting civilians won't increase the likelihood of U.S. military action against them. It violates commitments the Obama administration has made to pursue a "responsible withdrawal" that reserves the right to stop mass atrocities. Most troubling, it uses public opinion to evade our responsibility to halt genocide or related crimes—a mistake the United States has made in Cambodia, Rwanda and Bosnia.

Although Iraq's security situation has vastly improved, its civilians still suffer more fatalities as a result of violent conflict than civilians in any other conflict zone, with the possible exception of Sri Lanka, where violence spiked ferociously this spring but fatality rates are not known. In the average monthly rate of direct civilian fatalities for the first quarter of 2009 was 258, according to Iraq Body Count, an organization that is generally conservative in its estimates. This surpasses known rates for direct civilian fatalities of conflict during the same quarter in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Somalia, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Darfur.

The most concerning aspect of the vice president's remarks is the way he used public opinion as a preemptive excuse to set aside responsibility for helping to halt mass atrocities.

This preestablished unwillingness to reengage to halt atrocities in Iraq reminds us of several instances in which stopping atrocities was thought to be politically inconvenient, given recent history. After a long and costly war in Vietnam, Americans were assumed not to have the stomach for helping those in the killing fields of Cambodia, where hundreds of thousands were deliberately slaughtered. The 1993 "Black Hawk Down" episode during the U.S. operation in Somalia made action the following

year to save close to a million people in Rwanda politically unpopular. Clinton administration officials later pointed to public opinion to explain this failure, noting that the American people did not make enough "noise." Little surprise that our recent history in Iraq makes it harder to talk about going out of our way to protect civilians against mass atrocities.

In fact, polling shows that Americans are much more willing to intervene in genocide and mass atrocities than their leaders believe. To be fair, the Iraq case is special. Biden is probably right about the average American's interest in Iraq; a June CNN-Opinion Research Corp. poll found that 63 percent of Americans agreed the United States "should not send combat troops back" in the event of a "significant increase in the number of attacks on Iraqi citizens by insurgents."

Nevertheless, reengaging in Iraq to halt atrocities would not be a political impossibility, nor is public opinion on the matter immutable. The same CNN poll found that 35 percent of Americans agree that the United States should be willing to recommit combat troops in the event that violence against civilians worsens. The scale of the movement to end genocide in Darfur further suggests that there is a substantial constituency—a largely liberal one at that—that would rather stop mass atrocities than get the United States out of Iraq at any cost.

Fundamentally, then, this is a question of leadership. If conditions in Iraq warrant it, President Obama must lead us toward a responsible course of action that may initially be unpopular.

During the transition, the Obama administration noted on its Web site, Change.gov: "They (Barack Obama and Joe Biden) will reserve the right to intervene militarily, with our international partners, to suppress potential genocidal violence within Iraq." These words offered assurance that, in the worst-case scenario, President Obama was prepared to stop mass atrocities.

We recognize that the Iraq war is unpopular and that U.S. involvement has not always been for good. But we cannot allow politics to blind us to what responsibilities may emerge in the coming months and years. As with U.S. inaction in Cambodia and Rwanda, the clarity of hindsight will eventually leave us shamefaced if political inconvenience prevents us from halting mass atrocities in Iraq.

Mark Hanis is president of the Genocide Intervention Network, where Chad Hazlett is director of protection.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, Century Insurance Building, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Morrison asks: Jane Goodall

By PATT MORRISON

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**C**himpanzees and humans share about 95 percent of their DNA. If affinity and awareness count, Jane Goodall may have a smidge more. As the world's most renowned primatologist, she and her work have changed what we think of our primate brethren as thinking and feeling creatures, tool-makers, peacemakers and warmongers.

One of the original "Leakey Ladies," anointed by the paleoanthropologist Louis B. Leakey, Goodall still returns twice each year to the chimpanzees of Gombe, Tanzania. In a world of fleeting celebrity, she remains both famous and influential. Although burdened with a disorder called prosopagnosia, which makes it hard to recognize faces, she herself remains instantly recognizable, her blond ponytail running to gray after 75 years. Recently, after Goodall met Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and his companion, Lu Parker, in South Africa, Parker Twittered: "Met Dr. Jane Goodall. She says it's not about fighting for animal rights, it's about fighting for human responsibility. Clarity for me." In September, Goodall's latest book, *Hope for Animals and Their World*, will be published.

It's nearly 50 years since she and her mother stepped off the boat in Africa—the British authorities wouldn't allow a young woman to travel alone—and gazed out at the forested valleys and slopes and wondered how she would even begin to find a chimpanzee to study. That, as it turned out, was the easy part.

**Question: Have chimps taught you to think differently about people?**

**Answer:** Learning about chimpanzees helped me to better visualize the long millions of years of human evolution and to some extent why we behave the way we do, and considering they're so like us in so many ways, what's the main difference? We have developed this spoken language that enables us to teach, to plan for the distant future.

**Q: Why are humans so resistant to their kinship to animals, even primates?**

**A:** It was the done thing among animal-behavior people, when I started, to think of humans as totally separate and different in kind as well as degree from the other animals. I never felt that way. I've definitely seen a change. (But) there's a huge resistance in thinking about animals as having emotions, feelings, by anyone involved in invasive research—whether it's putting animals in cages and experimenting on them, or the meat industry. It's much easier to be nasty to creatures if you feel they don't have proper feelings.

**Q: They're still used as performers and as pets—evidence Michael Jackson and Bubbles.**

**A:** The whole use of chimps in entertainment means the baby's been taken from the mother, will never have a normal life. When they grow up, they go off to medical research, they're sent to lousy zoos in developing countries. Sadly, some people still think they're cute and charming and (don't) know anything about them in the wild at all, zero, nothing.

**Q: Is that why you've advised zoos on how to improve chimp habitats?**

**A:** Certain kinds of captive situations should be abolished. But where we have chimps in captivity, we should do the best we can for them. I could say, "Zoos are bad; I couldn't care less what we do for these chimps because they shouldn't be there"—(but) that's not terribly helpful if you're a chimp in a zoo.

**Q: With your Roots and Shoots project, you extended your work beyond chimpanzees to their habitat, then to the health of the planet. Why?**

**A:** I was traveling around the world, talking about chimp issues and how everything's interconnected, and (how) we need to be concerned about the forests because they sequester carbon which adds to climate change, blah blah blah. It's pretty pointless—anybody spending their life trying to save an animal or its habitat—if we're not at the same time helping new generations to become better stewards than we've been. So Roots and Shoots is about projects to make the world better: one, for people; two, for animals; three, for the environment. It's now in 110 countries with 10,000 active groups.



Goodall

**Q: So what can one human do?**

**A:** I always say, "If you would spend just a little bit of time learning about the consequences of the choices you make each day—what you buy, what you eat, what you wear, how you interact with people and animals—and start consciously making choices that would be beneficial rather than harmful."

**Q: Are you more optimistic after 50 years' work than you were when you began?**

**A:** When I began there was no need to worry. All the terrible things we started doing to the planet environmentally really started after World War II. Things are very bad now. I think we're almost at the point of no return, but we're not there yet. The point of (my new) book is that it's possible to turn things around if we get the political will.

**Q: There are stories about how your love of animals began, from Tarzan tales to a toy chimp named Jubilee.**

**A:** They're all true. I loved animals from the time I could crawl. I had Jubilee—he wasn't very cuddly. In fact, one of my mother's friends said, "You can't give a child that, she'll have nightmares." He wasn't ugly—he just looked like a real chimp. And "Doctor Dolittle," learning animal language—I wanted to do that more than anything.

**Q: You've performed the chimpanzee pant-hoot call around the world. Who's the most unlikely person you've persuaded to do it with you?**

**A:** I've pant-hooted to kings and queens and presidents, but I don't know that they've pant-hooted along with me. They're rather too embarrassed to do that—too self-conscious.

**Q: What's your favorite depiction of yourself in pop culture?**

**A:** Oh, a Gary Larson (cartoon) with two chimps grooming, and the female chimp pulling off this hair from the male and saying, "Hah, another blond hair. Been doing more 'research' with that Jane Goodall tramp?"

*Morrison is a Los Angeles Times columnist and host of a daily public-affairs show on Los Angeles public radio. Morrison's e-mail address is patt.morrison@latimes.com.*

## Letters to the Editor

# Marriage as a tool for immigration

To Jaime Vergara: When a person states they are trying to find a USA citizen to marry so they can immigrate to the USA, the marriage is now primarily a tool for immigration of said person.

What a person or village does with regards to local custom for a wedding has no effect on USA immigration laws. The law is clear: If the reason the foreigner is getting married to a USA citizen is because they could not get into the USA any other way, it's a valid reason to keep that person *out* of the USA.

The USA does not need nor does it want more people clearly trying to sidestep immigration laws, especially people from the Third World. This is not racism or nationalism, it's the overwhelming will of the citizens of the USA and here's the main reason: over a million immigrants, legal and illegal, arrive every year to the USA and they have less education and less skills than Americans, plus they consume more tax dollars than they contribute by three to one. They qualify for hiring preferences, promotions, and admission to colleges over the children of Americans. Thomas Jefferson and the founding fathers when they created the constitution said *for ourselves and*

*our posterity*, which specifically meant *not* for foreign peoples.

In case you do not know, the USA is less than broke; we are in debt over a *trillion* dollars. What you are doing is immoral, it is wrong, it is disservice to *all* Americans, but above all it is un-American to assist a foreigner in the attempt to cheat or skirt federal laws.

You should be ashamed of yourself. By the way, before you pigeon-hole me as a whitebread, anything I've done in the past is chose to live in the U.S. Virgin Islands, the CNMI, Panama, Costa Rica and Palau—all of which are primarily populated and controlled by non-whites. I'm married to a wonderful woman from Panama. We have two boys and I am very close to adopting her Panamanian son as my own. My younger brother is full-blooded Chippewa Indian, my sister is from Russia—and my parents' foster children include two Filipinos and two Japanese.

**William McCue**

Wellington, FL

# Thank you

The Sugar Dock local non-profit group members would like to extend a most sincere appreciation to the following individuals and companies that made the blessing of the Santa Maria Emaculada possible:

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Lino S. Tenorio & Group	Dr. John Joyner & CRM Staff

Thank you for your support and participation in making this event possible.

**Max Aguon**

**Irene Guerrero**

Sugar Dock Local Non-Profit Group

# Ignorant, irresponsible, and unremorseful

Prior to the federal indictments of former Lt. Gov. Timothy Villago-mez, we asked him several times to resign from the second highest office in the CNMI; instead, he ignored the request and carried on as if nothing ever happened.

Why did we ask? We believe that any public official who is charged with a crime should immediately take an administrative leave until one's innocence is proven beyond reasonable doubt.

Today, his lawyer, Mr. David Lujan, a Johnny Cochran-wannabe, "wants" the federal judge to grant his clients probation. We ask this individuals: What state of mind are they in?

First: They mocked and accused Judge Munson of being biased in his judgments.

Second: They objected and questioned the integrity of the jury.

Third: They used chewing gum as another form of excuse in hopes to derail the entire trial.

Fourth: They objected and also challenged the integrity of the Public Auditor's Office, FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office's pre-sentence investigative reports.

Fifth: Admitting and recognizing that the four other counts occurred or happened in 2007 is an admission of guilt but now Mr. Lujan is blatantly using statute of limitations that had ran out.

All these arrogance, ignorance and accusations against a federal judge, jury, and investigative agencies and we ask: What might the answer be?

The most important issue that any of these defendants and their lawyers forgot and completely ignored is that the entire people of the Commonwealth were bilked, disrespected and made a mockery of by individuals entrusted with public office, regardless of the amount taken.

In our view, if you can't do the time, then don't do the crime and expect leniency thereafter.

■ ■ ■ ■

## Thank you

In only a few months, one man—our delegate to Congress—has established a strong standing with the U.S. Congress. The reputation of our government's leadership, past and present, have all tainted the trust and respect of U.S. congressional members and this is indeed an historical moment in our lives. To gain 400 votes on a single bill takes a lot of dedication and hard work convincing people and Kilili has earned that respect and trust for our homeland.

Again, thank you, my friend!

**Gregorio Cruz Jr.**

President, Taotao Tano CNMI Inc.

**Ruth Tighe**






Tanapag, Saipan



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers in the morning, then scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers in the morning, then scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲88 ▼79
Palau	Showers	▲86 ▼78
Yap	Showers	▲88 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲88 ▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲88 ▼81
Kosrae	Partly Sunny	▲89 ▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲88 ▼79

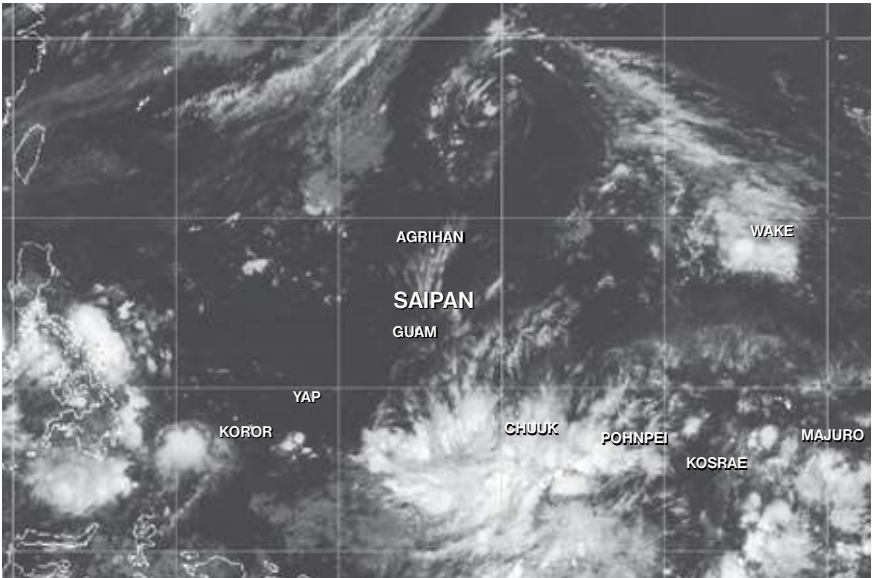
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲59 ▼50
Beijing	Partly Sunny	▲91 ▼72
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲91 ▼82
Honolulu	Partly Sunny	▲83 ▼75
London	Rain	▲68 ▼57
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲82 ▼67
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲61 ▼50
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89 ▼79
New York	Thunderstorms	▲80 ▼68
Osaka	Rain	▲83 ▼76
Paris	Showers	▲83 ▼62
Pusan	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼73
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲87 ▼64
Salem	Sunny	▲92 ▼55
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲68 ▼56
Seoul	Showers	▲82 ▼66
Tokyo	Rain	▲77 ▼72
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼69

### Tides

Saipan Harbor			
12:27 AM Today	Low Tide:	1.4 Feet	
5:23 AM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet	
1:05 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet	
8:20 PM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, JULY 20, 2009

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging winds are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across the Mariana Islands within 50 miles of a line from 17N145E to 13N144E and near Wake Island within 125 miles of a line from 20N164E to 18N167E. A weak circulation is near 8N130E with a trough eastward to 8N139E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms west of Palau are west of a line from 7N132E to 5N132E and southeast of Palau within 50 miles of a line from 7N137E to 6N138E. A developing circulation southwest of Chuuk is near 7N149E with a trough eastward into the Marshall Islands ending near 7N170E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are in a large area between 3B and 8N from 142E to 160E. Low level convergence is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across the southern Marshall Islands and Tarawa in an area south of a line from 8N165E to 5N175E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:35 AM	6:04 PM
Wednesday	5:43 AM	7:00 PM
Thursday	6:49 AM	7:50 PM
Friday	7:51 AM	8:36 PM
Saturday	8:50 AM	9:18 PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

### PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

#### For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

#### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

### HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com) or [jayvee\\_vallejera@saipantribune.com](mailto:jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com).
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

### POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 21, 2009

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)</b> C09597 11:50am 12:25pm 1, 7	<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN</b> C09598 3:15am 3:50am 5, 6 C09312 1:20pm 1:55pm 6
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM</b> C09597 12:50pm 1:20pm 1, 7	<b>GUAM-ROTA (ROP)</b> C09598 2:10am 2:40am 5, 6 C09312 12:10pm 12:40pm 6
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM</b> C09317 4:20am 5:10am Daily C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily C09597 11:50am 1:20pm 1, 7 via ROP C09601 12:30pm 1:20pm 4, 5 C09603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily C09605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily C09599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>GUAM-SAIPAN</b> C09598 2:10am 3:50am 5, 6 via ROP C09316 2:20am 3:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily C09600 10:20am 11:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 C09312 12:10pm 1:55pm 6 via ROP C09602 2:00pm 2:50pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily C09606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> C0941 5:30am 8:05am Daily NW99 6:05am 8:40am Daily NW78 9:00am 2:05pm Daily via NGO NW75 3:50pm 6:25pm Daily C0943 5:25pm 8:00pm Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> C0942 9:25am 1:55pm Daily NW76 10:00am 2:35pm Daily NW77 6:35pm 1:40am+1 Daily via NGO NW100 8:45pm 1:20am+1 Daily C0944 9:00pm 1:30am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)</b> OZ119 4:00am 6:40am 1, 3, 4, 6	<b>OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN</b> OZ120 9:55pm 2:20am+1 2, 3, 5, 7
<b>SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)</b> NW78 9:00am 11:40am Daily	<b>NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN</b> NW77 9:10pm 1:40am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:20am 1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b> CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b> CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA</b> OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN OZ604/703 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/933 3:30pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:45am+1 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	<b>MANILA-SAIPAN</b> OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM C0934/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 Daily via GUM OZ704/605 11:50pm 2:30pm+1 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG</b> OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	<b>HONG KONG-SAIPAN</b> OZ724/605 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana  
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily				
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily				



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Business

## Report: CIT Group board OKs \$3 billion rescue loan

WASHINGTON (AP)—CIT Group Inc.'s board approved a deal late Sunday with major bondholders to keep the company out of bankruptcy with a \$3 billion rescue loan, the *New York Times* reported.

The emergency financing is intended to give the ailing company time to restructure some of the billions of dollars in debt payments coming due this year, the *Times* reported, citing anonymous sources.

CIT representatives could not immediately be reached for comment.

New York-based CIT had been negotiating with key bondholders—including bond manager—in an attempt to avoid a bankruptcy filing. Jeffrey Peek, the company's chairman and chief executive, was actively involved in the talks, according to a person briefed on the matter. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the talks are confidential.

CIT has been scrambling to raise \$2 billion to \$4 billion after the federal government refused to bail out the company. Rescue talks with government regulators broke off late Wednesday after days of round-the-clock negotiations.

Under the deal, CIT's main bondholders would give the company \$3 billion at an initial rate of 10.5 percent, the *Times* reported.

A bankruptcy filing would



A pedestrian past the the CIT Group Inc. building in New York, Wednesday July 15, 2009.

have threatened funding for scores of small businesses across the country. It also would have wiped out \$2.3 billion in federal bailout money injected into the company in December.

The lender faces \$7.4 billion in debt due in the first quarter

of next year. Highlighting its woes, CIT will be removed from the Standard & Poor's 500 index next Friday and replaced with software distributor Red Hat Inc.

CIT had warned that depriving it of more federal aid could imperil about a million

## Asian markets gain as investors eye earnings, CIT

HONG KONG (AP)—Asian stock markets extended their advance Monday as investors eyed another raft of corporate earnings in the U.S. and struggling lender CIT Group neared an eleventh-hour deal to stave off bankruptcy.

Hong Kong and South Korean stocks led the region with gains of over 2 percent, while oil prices traded above \$64 a barrel. Japanese financial markets were closed for a holiday.

Investors seem encouraged as Wall Street futures rose amid news U.S. commercial lender CIT was closing in on a deal with bondholders for \$3 billion in emergency funding. The New York-based bank has been scrambling to raise \$2 billion to \$4 billion after the federal government refused to bail out the company last week.

The news could add more support to a market already relieved that second-quarter results from major American

companies have largely turned out better than expected. Reports this week from American Express, aerospace manufacturer Boeing, industrial equipment maker Caterpillar, among others, will likely to provide more clues about any rebound in the world's largest economy and could dictate trade in the near term.

"It's hard to see a big correction right now," said Andrew Orchard, Asian strategist for Royal Bank of Scotland in Hong Kong. "Earnings have helped the market rally a bit and there's still a lot of money out there, so I think we could move higher."

Hong Kong's Hang Seng jumped 446.98 points, or 2.4 percent, to 19,252.64, and South Korea's Kospi added 34.22, or 2.4 percent, to 1,474.25.

Most other major markets were also in the green, with benchmarks in Australia, Shanghai and Taiwan higher

by about 1.5 percent.

Indonesia's market suffered Asia's only decline, falling 0.5 percent and adding to losses after Friday's deadly bomb blasts at two luxury hotels in the capital Jakarta.

Wall Street closed little changed Friday.

The Dow Jones industrials rose 32.12, or 0.4 percent, to 8,743.94, but the broader Standard & Poor's 500 index slipped 0.36, or less than 0.1 percent, to 940.38.

U.S. futures pointed to a higher open Monday. Dow futures were up 34, or 0.4 percent, at 8,731 and S&P futures gained 3.3, or 0.4 percent, to 940.20.

Crude prices bounced in Asian trade, the benchmark contract rising 52 cents to \$64.08 a barrel. The contract advanced \$1.54 in Friday trade.

The dollar was higher at 94.62 yen from 94.32 yen. The euro strengthened to \$1.4154 from \$1.4115.

## Interior to halt uranium mining at Grand Canyon

WASHINGTON (AP)—Interior Secretary Ken Salazar will announce Monday that his department is temporarily barring the filing of new uranium mining claims on about 1 million acres near the Grand Canyon, an Obama administration official said.

The land is being "segregated" for two years so that the department can study whether it should be permanently withdrawn from mining activity, said the official, who requested anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak publicly on the matter.

The announcement comes ahead of Tuesday's congressional hearing on a bill to set aside more than 1 million acres of federal lands north and south of the canyon. The bill's sponsor, Democratic U.S. Rep. Raul Grijalva of Arizona, and environmental groups had been looking to Salazar for temporary protections at the Grand Canyon while the legislation is pending.

The Interior Department under President George W. Bush was unresponsive to efforts to ban new uranium mining

claims. The House Natural Resources Committee invoked a little-used rule to stop any new claims for up to three years, but Interior officials refused to recognize the action and continued to authorize additional mining claims.

A coalition of environmental groups sued, and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management later rescinded Congress' right to withdraw lands from mining and other activities in emergencies.

Since then, environmentalists and Grijalva have been hanging their hopes on Salazar for temporary protections.

Any companion bill to Grijalva's in the Senate is unlikely to come from Arizona's two U.S. senators. Republicans John McCain and Jon Kyl told Grijalva in a letter last month that adequate protections already exist.

Conservationists contend mining leaves the Grand Canyon vulnerable to environmental damage and that no new operations should be proposed when the old mining sites haven't been cleaned up.

There are as many as 10,000

## Big tech earnings week will reveal economic trends

SEATTLE (AP)—The technology sector is often talked about as if it were a unified front, an easy-to-define monolith. People say technology stocks rose or technology stocks fell. Tech helped drive a huge boom in the 1990s, and when that collapsed in 2001, tech contributed to the last recession.

In reality, technology companies have about as much in common as Toyota Motor Corp., Boeing Co. and JetBlue Airways Corp. Sure, all three play a part in getting you places, but their customers are different, as are their sales cycles and the metrics used to measure their prospects.

When some of the biggest technology names post earnings

this week, investors shouldn't expect one clear picture to emerge. The reports, however, are a revealing proxy for the broader economy.

Two chip makers, Advanced Micro Devices Inc. and Texas Instruments Inc., could provide early evidence of a recovery when they report results this week. They make the silicon building blocks of computers, cell phones and other gadgets. Manufacturers of those devices are assessing what consumer demand will be several months from now, and their level of confidence can be reflected in the orders they place with suppliers like AMD and Texas Instruments.

Online retailer Amazon.com

Inc. is on next week's list, as is Netflix Inc., the DVD rental service. Strong e-commerce sales and margins at Amazon could point to a consumer spending recovery, although big growth at Netflix could say the opposite: that people are still trying to save by spending more nights at home.

Making the picture harder to read, big technology companies such as IBM Corp. and Google Inc. showed last week that their obsession with cost-cutting is helping them squeeze more profit from their operations. That makes their numbers look good, even though sales are falling at IBM and barely growing at Google because of the economy.

Here's a look at some of the technology companies that will post earnings this week, and what might be gleaned about the economy:

Yahoo Inc.

Why it's important: Its performance will help clarify the state of the online advertising market, which is in its worst funk since the dot-com bust in 2001. Google already indicated Thursday that the ad market remains sluggish, but that tells only part of the story. Google makes most of its money from text-based ads while Yahoo is the largest seller of the online billboards known as display ads—a format that tends to track more closely with the economy's overall direction.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Oil rises above \$64 on strong Q2 corporate results

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices broke above \$64 a barrel Monday in Asia as strong second quarter company results helped boost investor optimism. Benchmark crude for August delivery was up 52 cents to \$64.08 a barrel by midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Friday, the contract jumped \$1.54 to settle at \$63.56. Better than expected earnings last week from Goldman Sachs Group Inc., Intel Corp. and JPMorgan Chase & Co. eased some investor doubts about the

chances of a U.S. economic recovery this year. Traders will be watching results this week from Apple Inc., Amazon.com Inc. and Microsoft Corp. for further clues about economic growth.

#### Chairman of business journals dies of bee sting

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Ray Shaw, a former Associated Press newsman and chairman of American City Business Journals, has died of complications from an insect sting. He was 75. Whitney Shaw said his father had been working in his garage

early Saturday when he was stung by a yellow jacket and collapsed. He said his father was revived, but died Sunday morning. The elder Shaw worked for the AP in the 1950s in Oklahoma City, Louisville, Ky., and New York. He became president and chief operating officer of Dow Jones & Co. before, in 1989, he bought control of American City Business Journals and sold it in 1995 to Advance Publications. He remained as chairman. Survivors include his wife, Kay, sons Whitney and Kirk; his daughter, Beth; and seven grandchildren. Funeral arrangements are pending.



# Nation

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Astronauts deal with flooded toilet in orbit

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.** (AP)—The bathroom lines at the already crowded space shuttle and space station complex got a lot longer Sunday because of a flooded toilet. One of two commodes aboard the international space station broke down, right in the middle of complicated robotic work being conducted by the two crews. The pump separator apparently flooded. Mission Control advised the astronauts to hang an “out of service” sign on the toilet until it could be fixed. In the meantime, the six space station residents had to get in line to use their one good toilet. And Endeavour’s seven astronauts were restricted to the shuttle bathroom.

### Palin: Alaska tour is thanks, not goodbye

**UNALAKLEET, Alaska** (AP)—She was greeted like a rock star in Unalakleet, a fishing village on the Bering Sea. She danced with Eskimos in Kotzebue. And she watched grizzlies at a wildlife sanctuary on the Kenai Peninsula. In all, Sarah Palin has been on eight trips outside her Anchorage base since announcing her resignation two weeks ago. Is this a farewell tour, the start of a possible presidential campaign for 2012? Palin insists it isn’t, although she still won’t say what plans she has after she steps down as Alaska governor on July 26, with 18 months left to her first term.

### SF train operator’s actions come under scrutiny

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—The operator of a light-rail train that crashed and injured dozens of passengers in San Francisco came under scrutiny Sunday as federal investigators tried to figure out why he inexplicably turned off the automatic controls moments before the collision. National Transportation Safety Board investigator Ted Turpin did not know why the operator switched the controls from automatic to manual in a tunnel near the West Portal Station. Had he kept the autopilot on, the train would have slowed down before arriving at the station and likely not careened into a parked train while going 23 mph, Turpin said. He added that the operator never engaged the emergency brake. The crash injured 48 people, four seriously, in the latest in a series of commuter train wrecks in recent months in the U.S. None of the injuries were life-threatening.

### Slain couple’s daughter to care for 13 children

**PENSACOLA, Fla.** (AP)—The adult daughter of a slain Florida couple known for adopting 13 special needs children said she is planning to move into her parents’ home and raise the children as her own. Ashley Markham, 26, told the Pensacola News Journal in Sunday’s editions that she and her husband intend to care for the children, saying it was her mother’s wish. A phone message was left by The Associated Press on Sunday with her attorney, Crystal Spencer. Markham also defended her parents, Byrd and Melanie Billings, whose lives and deaths had gained national attention since the July 9 attack. Byrd Billings, 66, was an entrepreneur who had dabbled in used cars, boats and the adult entertainment industry. His 43-year-old wife was a country music lover who fed the homeless and was devoted to her MySpace page. They adopted 13 children with autism, Down Syndrome and other developmental disabilities and lived in a sprawling home west of Pensacola.

## Kids’ lower IQ scores linked to prenatal pollution

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Researchers for the first time have linked air pollution exposure before birth with lower IQ scores in childhood, bolstering evidence that smog may harm the developing brain.

The results are in a study of 249 children of New York City women who wore backpack air monitors for 48 hours during the last few months of pregnancy. They lived in mostly low-income neighborhoods in northern Manhattan and the South Bronx. They had varying levels of exposure to typical kinds of urban air pollution, mostly from car, bus and truck exhaust.

At age 5, before starting school, the

### ON THE NET

Pediatrics: <http://www.pediatrics.org>

children were given IQ tests. Those exposed to the most pollution before birth scored on average four to five points lower than children with less exposure.

That’s a big enough difference that it could affect children’s performance in school, said Frederica Perera, the study’s lead author and director of the Columbia Center for Children’s Environmental Health.

Dr. Michael Msall, a University of Chicago pediatrician not involved in the research, said the study doesn’t mean that children living in congested cities “aren’t going to learn to read and write and spell.”

But it does suggest that you don’t

### Friend: Slain woman and accused husband had split

**FAYETTEVILLE, Tenn.** (AP)—A southern Tennessee woman and her husband, who is accused of killing her and five other people in two states, had been having marital troubles and were not living together, a man who says he knew the couple told The Associated Press on Sunday.

Jacob Shaffer, 30, faces six counts of homicide. His wife, 38-year-old Traci Shaffer, her son, Devin Brooks, and neighbor, Robert Berber, both 16, were found dead Saturday in her home in rural Fayetteville, said Tennessee Bureau of Investigation spokeswoman Kristin Helm. The bodies of Traci Shaffer’s brother, Chris Hall, 34, and father Billy Hall, 57, were found in a home across the road. Jacob Shaffer is also accused in a killing at a business in Huntsville, Ala., about 30 miles south.

The Shaffers were no longer sharing a home but had not filed for separation, said 29-year-old James Wilson, who was gathering belongings from Traci’s home in Lincoln County. He said he is the boyfriend of Shaffer’s sister, Jennifer.

The Shaffers had a 4-year-old daughter, and Wilson said police told him the girl was home during the killings but wasn’t hurt. Wilson told the AP that he met Jacob Shaffer when they were installing drywall, but they had stopped being friends about a year and a half ago.

Shaffer was still installing drywall around Huntsville, and Billy Hall had been driving him back and forth to work before the couple split, Wilson said.



In this October 2001 photo, released July 17, 2009, by the Columbia Center for Children’s Environmental Health, Ilkania Matos poses in New York, with a backpack air monitor she wore while participating in study tracking urban air pollution’s affect on the developing brain.

## Idaho town prays for return of captured US soldier

**HAILEY, Idaho** (AP)—Friends and family of an Idaho soldier who was captured in Afghanistan prayed for his safe return Sunday, shaken by the image of the frightened young private in a Taliban video posted online.

Pfc. Bowe R. Bergdahl, 23, was serving with an Alaska-based infantry regiment earlier this month when he vanished, just five months after arriving in Afghanistan. He was serving at a base near the border with Pakistan in an area known to be a Taliban stronghold.

Bergdahl is from Hailey, a town of about 7,000 people in central Idaho where he worked as a barista and was active in ballet. A sign hangs in the window of Zaney’s River Street Coffee House says “Get Bowe Back,” and a message inside asked customers to “Join all of us at Zaney’s holding light for our friend.”

Bergdahl’s family issued a statement asking people to keep the soldier in their thoughts and prayers, but told The Associated Press that the family was requesting media respect their privacy.

Neighbors and others in the com-



This video frame grab taken from a Taliban propaganda video released Saturday, July 18, 2009 shows Pfc. Bowe R. Bergdahl, 23, of Ketchum, Idaho, who went missing from his base in eastern Afghanistan June 30.

munity have known for weeks that Bergdahl had been captured, but said the family urged them not to talk about the kidnapping out of fear that publicity would compromise his safety. Idaho Gov. C.L. “Butch” Otter told the AP that he had been working

have to live right next door to a belching factory to face pollution health risks, and that there may be more dangers from typical urban air pollution than previously thought, he said.

“We are learning more and more about low-dose exposure and how things we take for granted may not be a free ride,” he said.

While future research is needed to confirm the new results, the findings suggest exposure to air pollution before birth could have the same harmful effects on the developing brain as exposure to lead, said Patrick Breyse, an environmental health specialist at Johns Hopkins’ school of public health.

And along with other environmental harms and disadvantages low-income children are exposed to, it could help explain why they often do worse academically than children from wealthier families, Breyse said.

“It’s a profound observation,” he said. “This paper is going to open a lot of eyes.”

The study in the August edition of Pediatrics was released Monday.

In earlier research, involving some of the same children and others, Perera linked prenatal exposure to air pollution with genetic abnormalities at birth that could increase risks for cancer; smaller newborn head size and reduced birth weight. Her research team also has linked it with developmental delays at age 3 and with children’s asthma.

to keep the soldier’s name quiet until it was officially released.

In the video posted Saturday on a Web site pointed out by the Taliban, Bergdahl says his name and his hometown. The Pentagon confirmed his identity Sunday.

## RNC chairman attacks Obama on health care

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The chairman of the Republican party is accusing President Barack Obama of conducting “risky experimentation” with his health care proposals, saying they will hurt the economy and force millions to drop their current coverage.

Michael Steele, in remarks prepared for delivery at the National Press Club, also said the president, Speaker Nancy Pelosi and key congressional committee chairmen are part of a “cabal” that wants to imple-

ment government-run health care.

“Obama-Pelosi want to start building a colossal, closed health care system where Washington decides. Republicans want and support an open health care system where patients and doctors make the decisions,” Steele said in excerpts of his speech made available in advance.

Obama has repeatedly said he does not favor a government-run health care system. Legislation taking shape in the House envisions

private insurance companies selling coverage in competition with the government.

Even so, numerous Republicans in Congress continue to level the accusation at Obama and congressional Democrats, and Steele did so in sharply critical terms.

“Many Democrats outside of the Obama-Pelosi-Reid-Waxman cabal know that voters won’t stand for these kinds of foolish prescriptions for our health care. We do too.”



# Asia

**KABUL (AP)**—A Tornado fighter jet crashed inside NATO's largest base in southern Afghanistan on Monday in the second major crash on the base in two days, officials said.

The jet crashed inside Kandahar Airfield during takeoff at 7:20 a.m. Afghanistan time (0250 GMT), said Capt. Ruben Hoornveld, a spokesman for the NATO-led force. The two-member crew ejected and were being

## NATO: Fighter jet crashes at Afghan base

treated at the base hospital.

There was no indication that insurgent activity caused the crash, he said, but officials could not immediately say why the plane went down. The jet caught fire and emergency personnel responded.

NATO didn't identify which nation the jet came from, but a U.S. military spokeswoman

in Kabul, Lt. Cmdr. Christine Sidenstricker, said the jet was a Tornado—an aircraft commonly flown by British forces.

The crash happened one day after a Russian-owned civilian Mi-8 helicopter crashed at Kandahar Airfield, killing 16 people on board. Both Kandahar crashes follow a string of deadly aircraft downings else-

where around Afghanistan in recent days.

Hoornveld said he did not know why two aircraft had crashed in Kandahar in two days.

"Honestly I can't say, but from my personal view it's coincidence," he said.

Afghan police and NATO troops closed down the highway that runs by the base, and

emergency personnel cordoned off the crash site and evacuated the surrounding area, Hoornveld said.

The crash of the Tornado is the third aircraft to go down in Afghanistan in three days. A U.S. Air Force F-15E Strike Eagle fighter jet crashed early Saturday in central Afghanistan, killing two crew members. U.S. officials say insurgent fire did not bring down the plane.

## Clinton prepares to sign India cooperation deals

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is applauding new progress in U.S.-India relations, highlighted by an agreement to broaden cooperation beyond trade and military ties to include agriculture, education and women's issues.

Clinton was meeting with top Indian officials Monday, including Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Foreign Minister S.M. Krishna, to announce a wider partnership between two countries still struggling to overcome distrust rooted in Cold War rivalries. The Obama administration regards India as an emerging world power and a key to turning the tide against violent Islamic extremism.

Clinton was also expected to sign an agreement Monday enabling U.S. companies sell nuclear reactors to India, and possibly another on defense sales.

The nuclear deal would give American companies exclusive rights to sell nuclear power plants at specified locations in India—an opportunity that could be worth \$10 billion for U.S. sellers. A second deal,



Indian Agriculture minister Sharad Pawar, in white, greets U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, center, as she arrives at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi, India, Sunday, July 19, 2009. AP

which officials said they hoped would also be ready for signing Monday, is known as an end-use monitoring agreement that would give the U.S. the right to ensure that U.S. arms sold to India are used for their intended purpose and that the technology

is not resold or otherwise provided to third countries.

On Sunday, India stood firm against Western demands that it accept binding limits on carbon emissions even as Clinton expressed optimism about an eventual climate change deal to

India's benefit.

"There is simply no case for the pressure that we—who have among the lowest emissions per capita—face to actually reduce emissions," India's minister of environment and forests, Jairam Ramesh, told Clinton and her

visiting delegation in a meeting.

"And as if this pressure was not enough, we also face the threat of carbon tariffs on our exports to countries such as yours," he added.

U.S. officials had expected the discussions to focus more on cooperation in related areas of energy efficiency, green buildings and clean-burning fuels.

The minister distributed copies of his remarks to reporters in a gesture aimed at underlining India's tough stance. The comments showed the political sensitivity in India of one of the Obama administration's foreign policy priorities.

Clinton said Ramesh presented a "fair argument." But she said India's case "loses force" because the fast-growing country's absolute level of carbon emissions—as opposed to the per capita amount—is "going up, and dramatically."

Later, at an agricultural research site in a farm field outside the capital, Clinton told reporters she is optimistic about getting a climate change deal that will satisfy India.

## Indonesian police: Explosives 'identical' to Bali

**JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)**—Explosive material recovered from the scene of two suicide bombings at hotels in the Indonesian capital is "identical" to that used by the Southeast Asian terrorist network Jemaah Islamiyah in earlier attacks, police said.

An unexploded bomb left in a room of the J.W. Marriott in Jakarta resembled devices used in attacks on Bali and one found in a recent raid against the network on an Islamic boarding school in Central Java, national police spokesman told a news conference Sunday.

The culprits in Friday's attacks that killed seven and wounded 50 are believed to have belonged to Jemaah Islamiyah "because there are similarities in the bombs used," Maj. Gen. Nanan Sukarna said.

The decapitated bodies of two alleged suicide bombers were also recovered at the blast scenes, police said.

Anti-terrorism police were hunting for Noordin Mohammad Top, a fugitive Malaysian who heads a particularly violent offshoot of the network and has been linked to four major strikes

in Indonesia since 2002.

The twin suicide bombings at the J.W. Marriott and Ritz-Carlton hotels came four years after the last serious terrorist attack in Indonesia and unleashed a new wave of anxiety in the world's largest Muslim-majority country.

After years of sectarian violence and annual terrorist strikes, the nation of 235 million had been enjoying a period of stability. President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was re-elected to a second term earlier this month, partly on the strength of government efforts to fight terrorism.

"I am shocked by these bombings," Razif Harahap, a 45-year-old graduate student, said in Jakarta on Sunday. "The same people who carried out these attacks could launch another one, because the mastermind is still at large."

Investigators have been examining body parts and other forensic evidence in an attempt to identify the two bombers, one of whom is believed to be Indonesian.

They were decapitated in the explosions, and confirming their

identity could help determine if they had links to Noordin.

The official Antara news agency said Sunday that the government was intensifying efforts to find Noordin and trace the network's finances to try to uncover any links to Friday's blasts.

Officials have identified five of the dead—three Australians, one New Zealander and one Indonesian.

Among the dead was Craig Senger, the first Australian government official to be killed in a terrorist attack, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said Sunday. Senger worked as a Trade Commission officer at the embassy in Jakarta.

Officials said 17 foreigners were among the wounded, including eight Americans and citizens of Australia, Britain, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and South Korea.

Jemaah Islamiyah rose to prominence after the 2002 nightclub bombings in the beach resort of Bali that killed 202 people, most of them foreigners.

## S. Korea mulls how to inspect N. Korean ships

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—South Korea's coast guard said Monday it is drawing up guidelines on how to inspect North Korean ships suspected of carrying banned items—a move expected to enrage Pyongyang, which has warned it would consider such inspections a declaration of war.

The move came as a senior U.S. diplomat met with South Korea's nuclear envoy about implementing U.N. sanctions punishing Pyongyang for its latest nuclear test and getting the communist regime to return to talks on its nuclear program.

Kurt Campbell, the assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs, also held talks in Japan and goes Monday to Thailand for Asia's main security conference, where North Korea should be a key topic.

"We need to make sure that we're extremely closely coordinated in a very critical period ahead," Campbell said at the start of a meeting with Seoul's nuclear envoy, Wi Sung-lac.

Wi said the two allies should work closely together to implement the U.N. sanctions, which include ship searches, and resume stalled nuclear talks.

North Korea quit the talks aimed at ending its nuclear ambitions in April in anger over a U.N. rebuke after it launched a long-range rocket. It also conducted a nuclear test in May and a series of banned ballistic missile tests early this month.

Campbell said Saturday there should be consequences for North Korea's provocations, but said the U.S. and its partners would be prepared to offer attractive incentives if Pyongyang returned to the talks and took "serious and irreversible steps" to disarm.

The stalled talks involved China, Japan, the two Koreas, Russia and the U.S.

Pyongyang's No. 2 leader, Kim Yong Nam, said last week that the talks are permanently over because the U.S. and its allies do not respect North Korea's sovereignty.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### SE Asia human rights body criticized as toothless

**PHUKET, Thailand (AP)**—Southeast Asian officials were finalizing an unprecedented regional human rights body on Sunday that has sparked criticism from activists that it will be too weak and have little impact in the region. Endorsement is expected Monday at a conference of the region's foreign ministers, with official approval coming at a summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, in October. Critics say the ASEAN human rights body is unlikely to have bite since the 10-nation bloc has traditionally operated by consensus and shuns interference in the internal affairs of its members, which include military-run Myanmar and Communist Vietnam and Laos.

#### After riots, China to promote anti-separatist laws

**BEIJING (AP)**—The top legislator from China's riot-hit Xinjiang said authorities will speed up local legislation against separatism in the western region that has a long-running independence movement by minority Uighurs, state media reported Monday. China faced its worst unrest in decades this month when tensions between the dominant Han Chinese and the Turkic-speaking, Muslim Uighurs descended into violence in the regional capital of Urumqi. Nearly 200 people died in the unrest. The chairman of the Standing Committee of the Xinjiang Regional People's Congress blamed the July 5 riots on "three forces"—extremism, separatism, and terrorism—both at home and abroad, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

#### Pakistan: 5 security officers killed in northwest

**PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)**—Gunmen ambushed a police patrol in Pakistan's volatile northwest Monday, killing four officers, while a roadside bomb killed a member of another security unit elsewhere in the region, officials said. Two officers died during the ambush on the outskirts of Peshawar city early Monday, while two others died later at a hospital from multiple bullet wounds, senior police official Nisar Khan said. The roadside bomb targeted a vehicle of the Frontier Constabulary in the Bannu area, killing one and wounding seven constabulary officers, local hospital official Mohammad Jawed said.



## World

## Zelaya prepares return to Honduras as talks stall

**MANAGUA, Nicaragua** (AP)—Ousted President Manuel Zelaya held out hope for a negotiated solution to Honduras' deepening political crisis even after talks in Costa Rica fell apart, but vowed to prepare the way for his return to power regardless of their outcome.

Zelaya accused his opponents of "making a mockery" of Costa Rican President Oscar Arias' attempts to mediate an agreement and called for stronger international pressure on the government of Roberto Micheletti, the interim president sworn in by Honduras' congress after a June 28 coup.

Singling out the United States repeatedly, Zelaya said the international community risks tacitly endorsing the putsch if it does not confront the interim government that abducted and deposed him at gunpoint.

"The international community is facing a dilemma," Zelaya told reporters at the Honduran Embassy in the Nicaraguan capital late Sunday. "They asked the guerrilla movements 20 years ago to put down their arms. ... And now the conservatives come back and take up arms to boot out the leftists who are attempting a process of reform."

Arias, the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize laureate for brokering



Ousted Honduras' President Manuel Zelaya talks on the phone during a news conference in Managua, Sunday, July 19, 2009.

an end to Central America's civil wars, proposed a plan that would let Zelaya serve out the final months of his term, move up elections by one month to late October, grant a general amnesty and include representatives of the main political parties in a reconciliation government.

The Micheletti government endorsed several of those proposals on Sunday—but his foreign relations secretary, Carlos Lopez, rejected the overall plan,

specifically citing the issue of Zelaya's return to power.

A counterproposal suggested Zelaya could return as a regular citizen—to be tried in court. Honduras' Supreme Court issued an arrest warrant for Zelaya before the coup, ruling that his effort to hold a referendum on calling for a constitutional assembly was illegal.

Many Hondurans viewed the referendum as an attempt by Zelaya to push for a socialist-

leaning government similar to the one his ally Hugo Chavez has established in Venezuela.

Zelaya, a wealthy rancher who shifted left during his presidency, charged that the current constitution protects a system of government that excludes the poor.

The aftermath of the coup is turning into a major test of Latin American democracy and of the Obama administration's policy toward the region.

The U.S., the United Nations

and the Organization of American States have demanded that Zelaya be reinstated, and no foreign government has recognized Micheletti.

In Washington, OAS chief Jose Miguel Insulza said Sunday that the international community continues to support Zelaya's return to power, and the Micheletti government needs to confront that reality.

"This is a coup that failed," Insulza told a news conference.

But further isolating impoverished Honduras, even Zelaya's allies concede, puts the country's stability at further risk.

Arias promised further efforts to seek a solution, and Vilma Morales, a negotiator for the interim government, said talks could resume Wednesday.

"Dialogue is not broken," she told the AP.

Zelaya, who previously vowed to go back to Honduras and set up a parallel government if the talks failed, left open the possibility that talks could bear fruit. But he said he would push forward with organizing "resistance" inside Honduras to prepare for his eventual return. He did not give details.

The Honduran military thwarted Zelaya's first attempt to fly home on July 5 by blocking the runway at the airport in the capital, Tegucigalpa.

## WORLD BRIEFS

## American fugitive deported from Israel to US

**JERUSALEM** (AP)—An Israeli immigration official says an American fugitive has left Israel and returned to the United States. It is believed that white supremacist Micky Louis Mayon of Steelton, Pennsylvania, was deported, but the immigration official would only confirm that he left Israel. The official did not give his name or explain why he did not want to be identified. Earlier this month, Israeli authorities said they found Mayon hiding in Tel Aviv after a tip-off from Interpol. They said he is wanted for a series of violent crimes in the U.S. and intended to deport him. A Web site of the U.S. TV program America's Most Wanted identifies a fugitive of that name as being a white supremacist from Steelton, Pennsylvania. The site says he fled to Israel in 2007.

## 11,000 Canadian flee forest fires

**KELOWNA, British Columbia** (AP)—About 11,000 residents of a subdivision threatened by a forest fire in southern British Columbia have been evacuated, officials said Sunday. Helicopters, air tankers and firefighters were attacking the 3.5-square-kilometer (1.35-square-mile) blaze raging behind the Glenrosa subdivision, some 275 kilometers (170 miles) east of Vancouver. "You had to get out. We just did what we were told. We just picked up our belongings and got out," Wilf Carey said as he went in to register at the evacuee center. Carey's house was among 6,500 homes deemed in danger. At least three homes were destroyed, but no casualties were reported.

## Mauritania coup chief wins vote amid fraud claims

**NOUAKCHOTT, Mauritania** (AP)—Nearly a year after seizing power in a military putsch that ousted Mauritania's first freely elected leader, Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz won the presidency Sunday in a landslide vote his opponents decried as a fraudulent "electoral coup." The poll was officially held to restore civilian rule, but critics say little is likely to change in this moderate Islamic republic on the western edge of the sand-swept Sahara. Power will remain in the hands of the 52-year-old retired general who spent his life in the military and resigned only to legitimize his grasp on it by running for president. "We've gone backward to an era of dictatorship," said Boubacar Ould Messaoud, who heads an organization that fights a tradition of slavery that continues here despite being banned.

## Ahmadinejad criticized over vice president choice

**TEHRAN, Iran** (AP)—President Mahout Ahmadinejad, already at the center of a post-election crisis, came under criticism from his own hard-line supporters Sunday for appointing a first vice president who once caused an outcry by saying Iranians were friends of Israelis. Ahmadinejad has been under siege by opposition supporters who claim he stole last month's election from pro-reform candidate Mir Hossein Mousavi. The latest criticism was a reminder that while hard-liners have supported Ahmadinejad in the election dispute, they often criticized him

before the vote, especially over his handling of Iran's economy.

The disagreements among hard-liners had been set aside since the June 12 election as they faced hundreds of thousands of Mousavi supporters who protested in the streets over what they said was massive vote fraud.

Authorities have cracked down violently and have arrested hundreds, including Iranian employees of the British Embassy. Iran released the embassy's chief political analyst on bail Sunday after charging him with harming national security for alleged involvement in the

protests, said the man's lawyer.

Police arrested 40 people on Friday after they clashed with thousands of protesters in the biggest opposition show of strength in weeks, the semiofficial Fars news agency reported Sunday. Some of those arrested were eventually released, it said.

The clashes followed a sermon by one of Iran's most powerful clerics, former President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, who criticized the government's response to the election dispute.

Also Friday, Ahmadinejad appointed Esfandiar Rahim Mashai, his son's father-in-

law, as his first vice president. Mashai angered hard-liners in 2008 when he said Iranians were "friends of all people in the world—even Israelis."

Mashai was serving as vice president in charge of tourism and cultural heritage at the time. Iran has 12 vice presidents, but the first vice president is the most important because he leads Cabinet meetings in the absence of the president.

Hossein Shariatmadari, an aide to supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and editor of hard-line Kayhan newspaper, said Sunday that Mashai's appointment

caused "a wave of surprise mixed with regret and concern" among Ahmadinejad supporters.

"Many of the closest individuals to the president strongly oppose the appointment," he added.

Most hard-liners consider Israel to be Iran's archenemy, and Ahmadinejad himself has repeatedly called for the Jewish state's destruction.

Khamenei, who has supported Ahmadinejad in the election dispute, called Mashai's comments about Israelis "illogical" shortly after he said them but urged critics to abandon their call for the president to fire his relative.

## Biden to greet eager allies in Ukraine and Georgia

**KIEV, Ukraine** (AP)—Vice President Joe Biden is visiting Georgia and Ukraine starting Monday, meeting leaders eager for further reassurance that Washington still supports their joining NATO and that its effort to warm relations with Russia won't come at their expense.

The Kremlin, having seen several former communist countries of Eastern Europe enter the Western alliance, strongly opposes more of its own former republics joining. And although the Obama administration has

insisted nothing has changed regarding the Georgian and Ukrainian candidacies, there's a widespread perception in the former Soviet bloc that the U.S. has opted to move more slowly.

On Thursday, an open letter whose signatories included such icons of the battle against Soviet domination as Poland's Lech Walesa and the Czech Republic's Vaclav Havel urged the Obama administration not to sacrifice Russia's smaller neighbors for better relations with Moscow.

## South Africa tests AIDS vaccine

**CAPE TOWN, South Africa** (AP)—South Africa is launching clinical trials of the first AIDS vaccines created by a developing country, a feat by scientists who forged ahead even when some of their political leaders shocked the world with unscientific pronouncements about the disease.

Trials to test the safety in humans of the vaccines begin this month on 36 healthy volunteers, Anthony Mbewu, president of South Africa's government-supported Medical Research Council,

said in an interview Sunday. Mbewu's respected organization shepherded the project.

A trial of 12 volunteers in the United States began earlier this year. Mbewu said the vaccine was designed at the University of Cape Town with technical help from the U.S. National Institutes of Health, which also manufactured the vaccine.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease and a leading AIDS researcher, was in South Africa for the launch.

During nearly 10 years of denial and neglect, South Africa developed a staggering AIDS crisis. Around 5.2 million South Africans were living with HIV last year—the highest number of any country in the world. Young women are hardest hit, with one-third of those aged 20 to 34 infected with the virus.

In 1999, the ministries of health and of science and technology founded the vaccine initiative and poured 250 million rand into it over nearly 10 years.



# Overdrive

## 2009 NISSAN CUBE

# Given a chance, boxy wagon is a charmer

By **WARREN BROWN**  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

**WASHINGTON**—We laughed and scratched our heads. The 2009 Nissan Cube was another case of ugly chasing cute. It was hard to tell which one was winning.

My wife, Mary Anne, and I weren't the only befuddled observers. Even those who liked the Cube said it resembled a "cartoon car," something from a Scooby-Doo tale. Detractors were merciless. Some called it ugly, as in "absolutely ugly" and "so ugly, it's stupid" and "I'd never drive anything that ugly."

But after a week in the Cube SL, the latest in a series of tall, boxy wagons from Japan and Korea, we concluded that detractors were missing the point.

The Cube represents performance and utility with a grin. It's a minstrel show on wheels—de-

liberately polarizing, offensive to some and pleasing to others in its hustle for laughs.

It has a wraparound rear window that doesn't quite wrap around. The window starts a tad behind the "B" pillar—the central pillar—on the wagon's passenger side. It wraps around to two "C" pillars in the rear ... and stops. It looks like a shortened hockey stick, a 180-degree window made all the more odd by its curved and deeply beveled frame.

The Cube's front end is both laughable and laughing. Its wide-eyed headlamps and curved-everywhere grille brought laughter from spectators who crowded around it in parking lots. But when looked at another way, staring at its front end face-to-face, the Cube appears to be laughing at you.

The Cube's passenger cabin is a work of wonderment. It would win First Place in any contest

for wackier-than-thou design. Yet, it also would finish near the top in most measurements of interior ergonomics, such as the placement and ease of use of gauges and controls.

Let's begin with the headliner, which, in automotive parlance, refers to a vehicle's ceiling. We've seen lots of imaginative things done to headliners—including the use of translucent domes (Mercedes-Benz Maybach) and the creation of headliners with hundreds of tiny light-emitting diodes that resemble stars (Rolls-Royce Phantom Coupe).

But using substantially cheaper materials and a remarkably simple design, the Nissan Cube has done the Maybach and the Rolls-Royce car one better in terms of enjoyable, entertaining headliner presentation. Looking up at the Cube's headliner is akin to looking at a pond into



THE WASHINGTON POST

The 2009 Nissan Cube, the latest in a series of tall, boxy wagons from Japan and South Korea, represents performance and utility with a grin. People who worry about what other people think of them should stay away from the Cube, a wagon of passionately polarizing design.

which a rock has been thrown. It ripples out front to rear.

Perhaps, it was our imagination. But Mary Anne and I thought that music of all sorts sounded better within the Cube's cabin.

On the road, the Cube is fun to drive—surprisingly peppy for a

wagon with a small, 122-horsepower, four-cylinder engine.

But handling on the highway, especially in crosswinds, leaves something to be desired.

The Cube is a tall, front-wheel-drive, boxy economy wagon built on Nissan's subcompact Versa car platform. It

has a factory weight—absent driver, passengers and cargo—of 2,884 pounds. Thus, with a driver, one passenger and no cargo, the manner in which our Cube SL was driven on most trips, the Cube becomes kite-like at high speeds in crosswinds on open roads.

## NUTS & BOLTS

By **WARREN BROWN**  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

### COMPLAINTS

People who worry about what other people think of them should stay away from the Cube, a wagon of passionately polarizing design. Also, open-road handling, especially in crosswinds, leaves something to be desired; and this one comes with a less-effective front-disc/rear-drum braking setup, as opposed to a more effective four-wheel-discs arrangement.

### RIDE, ACCELERATION AND HANDLING

Ride and acceleration are excellent. Handling is good in city traffic, but wanting on wind-swept highways.

### HEAD-TURNING QUOTIENT

Again, this is not a vehicle for people who take

praise or criticism seriously. In the Cube, you'll get plenty of both, most of it unsolicited.

### BODY STYLE/LAYOUT

The Cube is a front-engine, front-wheel-drive, square-bodied hatchback wagon built on Nissan's subcompact Versa automobile platform. It is available in four iterations — 1.8 base, 1.8 S, 1.8 SL and top-of-the-line 1.8 Krom.

### ENGINE/TRANSMISSIONS

The Cube comes with a standard 1.8-liter, 16-valve inline four-cylinder engine that develops 122 horsepower at 5,200 revolutions per minute and 128 foot-pounds of torque at 4,200 revolutions per minute. It is linked to a continuously variable automatic transmission (CVT) — a transmission that uses a pulley system to change engine speeds, as opposed to a transmission requiring fixed gear ratios. Auto en-

gineers contend that such CVT automatics are more fuel-efficient. A manual transmission is available in base Cubes.

### CAPACITIES

There are seats for five people. Maximum cargo capacity (with rear seats down) is 58 cubic feet. The fuel tank holds 13.2 gallons of regular unleaded.

### MILEAGE

The federal government says 28 miles per gallon in the city and 30 miles per gallon on the highway. We got 25 in the city (endless traffic jams) and 28 on the highway (lots of headwinds and crosswinds).

### SAFETY

Standard features include four-wheel antilock brake system; electronic stability and traction

control; whiplash protection system for river and front-seat passenger; two rear passenger head restraints; side and head air bags.

### PRICE

The base price for the 2009 Nissan Cube SL with CVT is \$16,790. Dealer's invoice price on that model is \$16,192. Price as tested is \$19,110, including \$1,600 in options (power door locks and windows; premium sound system featuring a Rockford Fosgate subwoofer; leather-wrapped steering wheel; front fog lights; BlueTooth phone and iPod connectivity) and a \$720 destination charge. Dealer's price as tested is \$18,300. Prices are sourced from Nissan, Edmunds.com, and Cars.com, an affiliate of The Washington Post.

### PURSE STRINGS NOTE

Compare with the Honda Element and Honda Fit, Kia Soul and Scion xB and xD (from Toyota).

# Trouble in the electric-car jungle

By **DAN NEIL**  
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

In his Santa Monica, Calif., gallery, Samuel Freeman displays a nifty bit of automotive art, a full-size replica of a Chevy V-8 engine made out of stained glass. But Freeman himself worships at the church of the electric car.

In November 2008, Freeman was one of nearly 2,000 people who signed up to lease a Mini E—an experimental electric-vehicle conversion of BMW's charming, capering retro-run-about. In early June, he was one of the lucky 450 Americans to get a car—his is No. 104—and since then he's been ripping up the streets of Venice and Santa Monica, quietly.

"The acceleration is huge," says Freeman, 34, as he mats the accelerator. "It's got a tremendously lightweight feel."

"It's all the G-force of a sports

car without the guilt," he says. "I love it."

But not everyone in the electric vehicle community is so enthused. For the last several months, a not-entirely-civil war of words has erupted on blogs and Facebook between BMW and those who'd volunteered to pay \$850 a month for the privilege of leasing a Mini E for a year. Critics say the cars were months late in reaching customers. A shortage of high-power cables left many dealing with desperately slow recharging times. Some of what BMW calls its Mini E "pioneers" have dropped out of the program because of delays in the installation of home charging equipment, others because of the expense of upgrading their home's electrical service.

Late in June, the grass-roots EV advocacy group Plug In America, based in Santa Mon-

ica, denounced the Mini E program as "botched."

BMW's muddled rollout of the Mini E "makes the whole technology look like it's not ready for prime time," says Chelsea Sexton, a member of the group's advisory board.

The accusation with the most sting is that BMW is exploiting a loophole in the California Air Resources Board's Zero Emission Vehicle mandate. Automakers who sell more than 60,000 units a year in California must offer a certain number of high-efficiency vehicles to the public. However, because the rules don't distinguish between selling and leasing vehicles, BMW is getting full credit for vehicles that will be on the road for only a year. (The hydrogen-powered Honda Clarity also benefits from the rules.)

For many EV advocates, the issue resurrects the painful



LOS ANGELES TIMES

Samuel Freeman of Santa Monica, Calif., is one of 450 drivers who are leasing a BMW Mini E electric.

memory of GM's EV1. When GM no longer needed the cars to meet state requirements, the cars were taken from lessees and crushed.

"We're afraid that it's going to be the '90s all over again," Sexton says.

Mini spokeswoman Nathalie Bauters says the company made no secret of trying to take

advantage of the Zero Emission Vehicle credits ahead of the June 30 deadline.

"There was no gaming of the system," she says.

As for leasing the cars as opposed to selling them outright, she notes that the cars use experimental lithium-ion batteries.

"Lithium is not used in vehicles sold to the public because we're

not there yet," Bauters says.

(The Mini E is only the second car on the road with such batteries, after the Tesla Roadster.)

Rich Steinberg, manager of product strategy for the Mini brand, concedes that "things could have been done better. There's legitimate criticism out there."

However, he says, "BMW is clearly committed to this technology. We have learned a bloody ton, and we intend to use that learning in the future."

For instance, Steinberg says, the company underestimated the time and difficulty in coordinating the installation of the home recharging equipment among subcontractors, utilities and municipal inspectors. This is an issue that is certain to confront more homeowners as EVs enter the market.

Another problem: BMW's original plan was to use a beefy high-power cable that had been in use in Europe, assuming it would be quickly approved by Underwriters Laboratories.



# Life & Style



## Arriola-Borja nuptials

Newlywed couple Glenn Arriola and Mary Ann Borja were married in an elaborate ceremony held at the Kristo Rai Church presided over by Fr. Ryan Jimenez on July 11, 2009.

A grand reception immediately followed at the Pacific Islands Club.

Here are some pictures from the joyous event:



## A weather-wise wedding

By JASON SAMENOW

(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

**W**hen planning a wedding, you have control over the guest list, the reception location and nearly every other detail of your big day. The one thing you can't control? The weather. It's innately chaotic, and no matter what anyone tells you, it can't be predicted months in advance.

So how should you plan for the weather, especially if you want to hold a ceremony or reception outside? To help you out, here's a five-step plan for a stress-free outdoor wedding:

### Determine Your Ideal Weather and Identify Windows of Opportunity

While "ideal" wedding weather is subjective, most people seem to be looking for a day that's dry and comfortably warm, but not hot. Let's assume that means temperatures from 70 to 85 degrees. Find out when your wedding location averages temperatures in this range (or the range of your choice). Weather.com has a great tool for this: just plug-in your location and it provides data on average temperature and precipitation throughout the year. It also provides daily temperature records (i.e., the hottest and coldest it's ever been on a given date) which will give you a sense of the full range of possible conditions.

With its mild temperatures, late April to early June and early September to early October are some of the more popular months for weddings. The wild card during these periods is precipitation, which is why Step 3 of our plan (below) is so important. If you want to eliminate the chance of rain, consider a destination wedding at a location that has distinct dry seasons (such as southern California and some tropical islands) or is in the desert.

### Select a Date That Provides the Best Chance of Realizing Ideal Weather

Weather isn't the only factor when choosing a date—venue availability, guest travel plans and other details have to be taken into consideration. But don't let the date slip too far outside the windows of opportunity you identified in Step 1 if you want good odds on cooperative weather.

When choosing your date, also consider the time of day during which you plan to hold your outdoor event(s). If you're planning an outdoor reception at night, temperatures will be falling. So that might mean you want to pick your date using low temperatures as the criteria instead of highs. And if your ideal temperatures range from 70 to 85 degrees, that would mean a summer wedding makes more sense than one in the late spring or early fall when it may become cold.

### Develop a Bad Weather Back-up Plan

There's an old saying: "climate is what you expect, weather is what you get." In other words, don't let what the average conditions at a location fool you into thinking those conditions are guaranteed. The date's highs may average 75, but that doesn't mean you won't face a chilly 50 or a sweltering 95. And unless you're holding an outdoor wedding at a place where it virtually never rains, you have to be prepared.

Determine how and where you'll move your event if there's rain or extreme temperatures. Discuss this back-up plan with caterers, florists, musicians and other key players ahead of time. When deciding whether or not to move your wedding into a climate-controlled environment, consider the comfort and health of your guests -- especially the elderly who may be especially sensitive to heat, cold and getting wet.

### Don't Start Checking the Forecast Until a Week Before Your Wedding

As the wedding draws closer, you're going to want to know whether your outdoor setting is safe or whether you need to resort to your bad-weather plan. Unfortunately, reliable forecasts are not available very far in advance. You might get a general idea of what the day will be like a week ahead of time, but a detailed, reliable forecast probably won't be available until a few days before the event.

The most challenging forecasts to plan for are those that include a 30 percent chance or so of thunderstorms. That's because these storms are often widely scattered and develop unpredictably. In these situations, one place might get drenched, while another 10 miles away stays bone dry. The only way to plan for these types of storms is to keep an eye on radar. Our advice: find the weather geek attending your wedding (there's usually at least one) and give him or her radar duty. With radar information accessible on most PDAs, your helpful guest can warn you if a storm is bearing down.

### Embrace and Enjoy Whatever Weather Your Wedding Day Brings You

Just because you can't control the weather doesn't mean it needs to be a source of stress. By understanding the range of weather possibilities for your wedding day and preparing for all of them, you can check weather right off your 500-item to-do list and then rejoice in your special day, rain or shine.

Samenow is chief meteorologist for WashingtonPost.com's Capital Weather Gang blog.



# 'Angela's Ashes' author McCourt dies in NYC at 78

**N**EW YORK (AP)—Frank McCourt, the beloved raconteur and former public school teacher who enjoyed post-retirement fame as the author of "Angela's Ashes," the Pulitzer Prize-winning "epic of woe" about his impoverished Irish childhood, died Sunday of cancer.

McCourt, who was 78, had been gravely ill with meningitis and recently was treated for melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer and the cause of his death, said his publisher, Scribner. He died at a Manhattan hospice, his brother Malachy McCourt said.

Until his mid-60s, Frank McCourt was known primarily around New York as a creative writing teacher and as a local character—the kind who might turn up in a New York novel—singing songs and telling stories with his younger brother Malachy and otherwise joining the crowds at the White Horse Tavern and other literary hangouts.

But there was always a book or two being formed in his mind, and the world would learn his name, and story, in 1996, after a friend helped him get an agent and his then-unfinished manuscript was quickly signed by Scribner. With a first printing of just 25,000, "Angela's Ashes" was an instant favorite with critics and readers and perhaps the ultimate case of the non-celebrity memoir, the extraordinary life of an ordinary man.

"F. Scott Fitzgerald said there are no second acts in American lives. I think I've proven him wrong," Mc-

Court later explained. "And all because I refused to settle for a one-act existence, the 30 years I taught English in various New York City high schools."

The book has been published in 25 languages and 30 countries.

McCourt, a native of New York, was good company in the classroom and at the bar, but few had such a burden to unload. His parents were so poor that they returned to their native Ireland when he was little and settled in the slums of Limerick. Simply surviving his childhood was a tale; McCourt's father was an alcoholic who drank up the little money his family had. Three of McCourt's seven siblings died, and he nearly perished from typhoid fever.

"Worse than the ordinary miserable childhood is the miserable Irish childhood, and worse yet is the miserable Irish Catholic childhood," was McCourt's unforgettable opening. "People everywhere brag and whimper about the woes of their early years, but nothing can compare with the Irish version: the poverty, the shiftless loquacious father; the pious defeated mother moaning by the fire; pompous priests, bullying schoolmasters; the English and all the terrible things they did to us for 800 long years."

The book was a long Irish wake, "an epic of woe," McCourt called it, find-



In this Oct. 18, 2005 file photo, author Frank McCourt gestures during an interview at his apartment in New York.

ing laughter and lyricism in life's very worst. Although some in Ireland complained that McCourt had revealed too much (and revealed a little too well), "Angela's Ashes" became a million seller, won the Pulitzer and was made into a movie of the same name, starring Emily Watson as the title character,

"After teaching, I was getting all this attention," he said. "They actually looked at me—people I had known for years—and they were friendly and they looked me in a different way. And I was thinking, 'All those years I was a teacher, why didn't you look at me like that then?'"

McCourt's mother.

Author Peter Matthiessen, who became friendly with McCourt after "Angela's Ashes" came out, said he was "stunned" when he read it.

"I remember thinking, 'Where did this guy come from?'" Matthiessen said. "His book was so good, and it came out of nowhere."

The white-haired, sad-eyed, always quotable McCourt, his Irish accent still thick despite decades in the U.S., became a regular at parties, readings, conferences and other gatherings, so much the eager late-life celebrity that he later compared himself to a "dancing clown, available to everybody." His friend and fellow memoirist Mary Karr once kidded him that her idea of a rare book was an unsigned copy of "Angela's Ashes."

McCourt told The Associated Press in 2005 he wasn't prepared for fame.

But the part of it he liked best, he said, was hearing "from all those kids who were in my classes."

"At least they knew that when I talked about writing I wasn't just talking through my hat," he said.

Much of his teaching was spent in the English department at the elite Stuyvesant High School in Manhattan, where he defied the advice of his colleagues and shared his personal stories with the class; he slapped a student with a magazine and took on another known to have a black belt in karate.

After "Angela's Ashes," McCourt continued his story, to strong but diminished sales and reviews, in "Tis," which told of his return to New York in the 1940s, and in "Teacher Man." McCourt also wrote a children's story, "Angela and the Baby Jesus," released in 2007.

More than 10 million copies of his books have been sold in North America alone, said Scribner, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Inc.

"We have been privileged to publish his books, which have touched, and will continue to touch, millions of readers in myriad positive and meaningful ways," Simon & Schuster CEO Carolyn Reidy said in a statement.

McCourt was married twice and had a daughter, Maggie McCourt, from his first marriage.

His brother Malachy McCourt is an actor, commentator and singer who wrote two memoirs and, in 2006, ran for New York governor as the Green Party candidate. At least one of his former students, Susan Gilman, became a writer.

McCourt will be cremated, his brother said. A memorial service is planned for September.

**LAS VEGAS** (AP)—Few in Nevada legal circles believe O.J. Simpson has any real chance at freedom when the state's Supreme Court justices consider letting him trade a prison cell in rural northern Nevada for a golf course in Miami while he appeals his conviction in a gunpoint hotel room heist.

What really has them abuzz is that Nevada's only appellate court agreed to schedule oral arguments Aug. 3 to hear Simpson's plea to be allowed to post bond.

"It's unusual. This is a situation where the Nevada Supreme Court might be accused of politics or being star-struck," said Michael Green, a state history author and professor at the College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas. "But this is also a case where they'd want to make sure all the i's are dotted and the t's are crossed."

The Nevada Supreme Court received 1,842 appeals in fiscal 2008, and can take two years to decide cases, court spokesman Bill Gang said. Excluding motions by inmates acting as their own lawyers, the court hasn't received more than five requests for bail pending appeal in any year since 2000, Gang said.

Only one inmate, Paul Thomas Picetti, gained release in 2007 on a written request pending his appeal of a felony drunken driving conviction.

Not once the last eight years has the court held oral arguments.

But no Nevada prison inmate is as high-profile as the NFL Hall-of-Famer, television star and celebrity criminal defendant acquitted in the 1994 slaying

## Chances of OJ winning release? Depends on who you ask

of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ron Goldman, in Los Angeles.

It's been more than 30 years since the state high court granted a high-profile defendant freedom pending appeal. That man, Lawrence Arvey, skipped town.

"That hurt us all," said William Terry, a veteran Las Vegas defense lawyer who helped represent Arvey. "The Supreme Court is kind of like an elephant, they don't forget."

Arvey, a big man and larger-than-life casino figure who wore jogging suits and big wigs to court, went by several names and nicknames including "Candy Man," "Mr. Chin" and "Big Fat Daddy." Some of the most prominent attorneys in town, including current Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman and Harry Claiborne, represented him.

Arvey was sentenced in April 1978 to life in prison for sex crimes with minors. The high court granted his release two months later on a \$100,000 bond. "Nobody thought he was a flight risk because in 1978 that was such a large amount of money," Terry said.

Arvey, who would be 69, is still listed as a fugitive.

Terry said that in scheduling oral arguments in Simpson's case, the court might be signaling that some issues in his appeal have merit.

"In order to get bail pending appeal, you have to show there is a potential of reversal on appeal," he said.



In this Oct. 3, 2008 file photo, O.J. Simpson reacts as he is found guilty on 12 charges, including felony kidnapping, armed robbery and conspiracy at the Clark County Regional Justice Center in Las Vegas.

Simpson's lawyer, Yale Galanter, said that's what he hopes, too.

"I know my burden is high. I know them granting bond would be a really rare thing," said Galanter, whose 30-page appeal calls Simpson's trial so rife with errors by the judge and prosecutors that his conviction should be reversed.

Galanter said Simpson, who has a residence in Miami, is so famous he couldn't possibly flee if he is released from prison.

"He's got no place to go, no place to hide," his lawyer said. "News crews follow him to the restaurant, to the golf course, to school to pick up his kids.

He's truly one of the most recognizable people on the planet."

"The unjust outcome of not granting him a bond," Galanter added, "is that if the case is reversed, he will have sat in prison and been punished for nothing, while the appeal winds its way through the system."

Simpson turned 62 this month at Lovelock Correctional Center, 90 miles northeast of Reno. He's been working as a gym janitor while serving nine to 33 years for kidnapping and assault with a deadly weapon in the gunpoint robbery of two sports memorabilia dealers in a Las Vegas hotel room in September 2007.

A former golfing buddy and convicted co-defendant, Clarence "C.J." Stewart, 55, is serving 7 1/2 to 27 years at Northern Nevada Correctional Center in Carson City.

They have separate appeals pending with Supreme Court, along with requests to be let out of prison pending a decision.

Neither will be in court for separate 30-minute oral arguments their lawyers and prosecutors will make before three justices of the seven-member state high court - Michael Cherry, Nancy Saitta and Mark Gibbons. Gibbons is not related to the state's Republican governor, Jim Gibbons.

JoNell Thomas, a veteran Las Vegas lawyer in the special public defender's office, called the court's decision to hold

a bond hearing for Simpson and Stewart "encouraging" for other appellants. "This tells me I need to file more bond motions on appeals," Thomas said.

Howard Brooks, the Clark County deputy public defender who oversees appeals for every convicted indigent defendant in Las Vegas, called it unlikely that Simpson will win his appeal, and more unlikely that he'll be released on an appellate bond.

"The Nevada Supreme Court reverses about 2 to 5 percent of criminal appeals. That is a very low rate," Brooks said. "The bottom line is, I'd say his chances of getting bond are one in a million."

Justices have denied requests for bond by other high-profile defendants, including Sandy Murphy, who served nearly four years in the 1998 death of Las Vegas casino executive Ted Binion before her conviction was overturned. Murphy and co-defendant Rick Tabish won a new trial and were acquitted of murder in 2004.

The court also denied bond in 2004 to Peter Bergna, a former Lake Tahoe-area art appraiser whose conviction in the death of his wife in a staged car crash was later upheld.

Thomas, who read the Simpson appeal brief, said she doubted the high court would reveal during the hearing whether the justices think Simpson has a good case on appeal.

"All they're saying is there are interesting issues here," she said. "That's a long way from saying they're going to reverse the case."



# 'Potter' conjures up \$159.7 million in 5 days

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Harry Potter continues to work box-office alchemy, turning his latest movie adventure into an overnight blockbuster.

The sixth installment, "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," took in \$79.5 million domestically over opening weekend and \$159.7 million since debuting last Wednesday, according to estimates from distributor Warner Bros. on Sunday.

The movie also took in \$237 million overseas since Wednesday in 54 countries, bringing its worldwide total to \$396.7 million.

With some of the best reviews of any "Harry Potter" movie, "Half-Blood Prince" was off to the fastest overall start in franchise history.

The sixth movie about the young wizard came in \$20 mil-

lion ahead of the last movie, "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," which grossed \$139.7 million domestically in its first five days two years ago.

The new film had the second-highest start ever for a movie premiering on Wednesday, trailing the \$200 million five-day opening for last month's "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen."

"Half-Blood Prince" already has surpassed the \$157.3 million "Order of the Phoenix" pulled in during its entire first week. By the end of its seventh day Tuesday, "Half-Blood Prince" will

be in the \$180 million range on its way to becoming the franchise's first \$300 million domestic smash since the original movie, 2001's "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," said

pals Hermione (Emma Watson) and Ron (Rupert Grint) as they deal with adult concerns such as heartache, jealousy and romantic triangles.

Fans have grown up with the franchise, from young readers whose parents had to debate whether the early movies might be too intense for their children to see.

"When the first movie came out, they fought to go. The mother was like, well, should I take them, should I not take them?" Fellman said. "Now they're driving themselves to this and going to

the midnight show."

Sacha Baron Cohen's mock documentary "Bruno" plummeted after its No. 1 debut the previous weekend. The Universal Pictures comedy fell to fourth-place with \$8.4 million, down a whopping 73 percent from its \$30.6 million opening.

While "Harry Potter" had a healthy start, the overall box office plunged compared to the same weekend last year, when the Batman juggernaut "The Dark Knight" had its record opening weekend of \$158.4 million.

The top-12 movies this week-end combined for less than that, taking in \$153.9 million, down 39 percent from a year ago.

"We got kind of slaughtered even with the 'Potter' movie, but we knew that was going to happen," said Paul Dergara-

bedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "When one movie last year makes more than what the top-12 movies did this year, you're going to have a down weekend."

Fox Searchlight's romantic comedy "500 Days of Summer," starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Zooey Deschanel, got off to a big start in limited release with \$837,588 in 27 theaters. That amounted to an average of \$31,022 a cinema, compared to \$18,376 in 4,325 theaters for "Half-Blood Prince."

A hit with critics, "500 Days of Summer" expands gradually into wide release over the next few weekends.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

1. "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," \$79.5 million.
2. "Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs," \$17.7 million.
3. "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen," \$13.8 million.
4. "Bruno," \$8.4 million.
5. "The Hangover," \$8.32 million.
6. "The Proposal," \$8.3 million.
7. "Public Enemies," \$7.6 million.
8. "Up," \$3.1 million.
9. "My Sister's Keeper," \$2.8 million.
10. "I Love You, Beth Cooper," \$2.7 million.

Dan Fellman, Warner head of distribution.

The audience was a bit older for the new movie, with more elder teens turning out to see Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) and

## 'Harry Potter' names cast a spell

By MARY CAROLE MCCAULEY  
(C) 2009, THE BALTIMORE SUN

It isn't enough of a coincidence that he shares a name with the most famous literary character on the planet. He would have to have a scar on his forehead, starting between his eyes and snaking up his forehead in a line—just like the boy wizard created by J.K. Rowling.

"Oh my lordy Hannah," says the real-life Harry E. Potter, 76, of Leonardtown, Md. "You have no idea what it is like to have this name. Just 15 minutes ago, I got a phone call from some girls who were about 13 or 14, and who giggled a lot. And you cannot be rude to them, you know that? You cannot be rude."

"That J.K. Rowling owes me something. I'm not sure what, but she owes me."

If having the same name as his fictitious counterpart has begun to weary Potter, you can't blame him. After all, the unsought attention has been going on for 12 years, since the first novel in the seven-book series was published.

And it's not about to end anytime soon; the final movie in the series won't be released for two years.

Many of the names that Rowling chose for her characters—names such as Nymphadora, Gilderoy and Draco—are hardly common. Nonetheless, there are enough folks who share a name with Rowling's wizards to make up several Quidditch teams.

Maryland alone has, or recently had, at least three Harry Potters, 16 Hermiones, 3 Siriuses, 13 men named Snapes, one Severus, one Bellatrix and 15 women named Narcissa.

There appears to be a Dumbledore in Nashville, Tenn., with the all-important first initial of "A."

For these people, the release of each new book in the canon, and each new movie—"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood

Prince" opened Wednesday—is, to put it mildly, a mixed blessing.

"It was fine for a while," Potter says, noting the seemingly never-ending litany of medical professionals who bring in their children to meet him while he's sitting on their examination tables, or 3 a.m. phone calls from inebriated strangers, or autograph hounds who never tire of hearing the story about the scar. (When the real Harry Potter was 5 years old, he was playing with his cousin, who struck him in the forehead with a hatchet.)

"Each time another book or movie comes out, the phone rings off the hook for about two months," says Potter, who retired from a career in food service management.

"It does get tiring. I'm seriously thinking of changing my listing in the phone book to 'H. Potter.'"

Others rely on their sense of humor to cope with their inadvertent brush with fame.

John Malcolm Snape was born in Wales, and he has a refined British accent and rich bass reminiscent of Alan Rickman, the actor who portrays potions master Severus Snape in the "Harry Potter" films.

So when he answered the phone one day, there was a moment of silence on the line, followed by the excited tones of a young lad wanting to know if he were indeed the famous Professor Snape of the movies and books.

"I told him, 'No, that's my younger brother who works at a college in England,'" says Snape, 79, who lives in Baltimore.

Harry E. Potter and John Malcolm Snape are, in a sense, victims of circumstance. But some children might have been deliberately named after Row-

ling's characters.

The Social Security Administration compiles an annual report of baby names, and Mae Novak, the agency's acting regional communications manager for the Philadelphia region, says that historical and cultural developments can trigger a wave of young Baracks or Scarletts.

For example, "Shirley" was the second-most popular name for girls born in 1935 and 1936, the year after Shirley Temple tapped her way into fans' hearts in the film "Bright Eyes."

In 1978, the year after the first Star Wars movie was released, the name "Luke" rose from a ranking of 222nd in 1976 to No. 139.

Harry has always been, and continues to be, a popular name for boys in this country. To be precise, 644 baby boys were given this moniker in 2008.

Though neither "Ron" nor "Hermione" figured in the top 1,000 names last year, the highly idiosyncratic name of another friend of the boy wizard's did.

"Luna is a girl's name that increased significantly in popularity when Rowling introduced that character in her later books," Novak said.

"Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," the first book in which Rowling introduced the big-hearted, dreamy Luna Lovegood, was published in the summer of 2003. Before then, "Luna" hadn't made the list of the 1,000 most popular names for newborn girls since 1921. Yet, in 2003, Luna ranked 890th, and by 2008, had risen to No. 399.

Luckily, most who share identities with the "Harry Potter" characters have names carrying positive associations. They might get teased, but they're unlikely to inspire dread and loathing in perfect strangers.

Except of course, for the elementary school principal named Tom Riddle.

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 Fantasy, Adventure, Sequel • Rated PG-13

### Synopsis

Voldemort is tightening his grip on both the Muggle and wizarding worlds and Hogwarts is no longer the safe haven it once was. Harry suspects that dangers may even lie within the castle, but Dumbledore is more intent upon preparing him for the final battle that he knows is fast approaching. Together they work to find the key to unlock Voldemort's defenses and, to this end, Dumbledore recruits his old friend and colleague, the well-connected and unsuspecting bon vivant Professor Horace Slughorn, whom he believes holds crucial information.



**Bruno**

Fri. and Sat. 1:10 4:15 7:30 9:45  
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:10 4:15 7:30

**Sacha Baron Cohen, Gustaf Hammarsten**  
 Comedy • Rated R

### Synopsis

Borat trickster Sacha Baron Cohen returns to the big screen to offer yet another stinging dose of sociopolitical satire in this comedy that finds him assuming the persona of gay fashionmonger Bruno, the self-proclaimed "voice of Austrian youth TV." Originally conceived as part of Cohen's cult television series Da Ali G Show, the character of Bruno offered a cleverly costumed Cohen the opportunity to highlight the absurdities of the fashion industry by interviewing unsuspecting fashion icons and other haute couture hangers-on.



**Ice Age: Dawn Of The Dinosaurs**

Fri. and Sat. 1:20 4:30 7:25 9:30  
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:20 4:30 7:25

**John Leguizamo, Queen Latifah**  
 Family-Oriented Adventure • Rated PG

### Synopsis

After the events of Ice Age: The Meltdown, life begins to change for Manny and his friends: Scrat is still on the hunt to hold onto his beloved acorn, while finding a possible romance in a female sabre-toothed squirrel named Scratte. Manny and Ellie, having since become an item, are expecting a baby, which leaves Manny anxious to ensure that everything is perfect for when his baby arrives. Diego is fed up with being treated like a house-cat and ponders the notion that he is becoming too laid-back.



**Public Enemies**

Fri. and Sat. 1:25 4:20 7:05 9:50  
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:25 4:20 7:05

**Johnny Depp, Christian Bale**  
 Crime Drama • Rated R



**Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen**

Fri. and Sat. 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00  
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:00 4:00 7:00

**Shia LaBeouf, Megan Fox**  
 Sci-Fi Action • Rated PG-13



**My Sister's Keeper**

Fri. and Sat. 1:30 4:25 7:20 9:55  
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:30 4:25 7:20

**Cameron Diaz, Abigail Breslin**  
 Family Drama • Rated PG-13



**The Proposal**

Fri. and Sat. 1:15 4:05 7:10 9:40  
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:15 4:05 7:10

**Sandra Bullock, Ryan Reynolds**  
 Romantic Comedy • Rated PG-13

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# Report: Abdul's return to 'American Idol' doubtful

Carla Bruni, others  
perform at NYC  
Mandela concert

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A flock of global entertainment notables and politicians, including France's first lady Carla Bruni, toasted Nelson Mandela's 91st birthday with an all-star concert at Radio City Music Hall.

The tribute, held Saturday night, celebrated the anti-apartheid icon's birthday with a diverse collection of musical collaborations that ranged from pop to disco to gospel.

Bruni made her American stage debut at the show paired with Eurythmics founder Dave Stewart as her husband, President Nicolas Sarkozy, sat cheering in the audience. She paid homage to Mandela's social activism by covering Bob Dylan's "Blowin' in the Wind," calling it a song by another famous activist.

For her first song, a slow French ballad, she told the crowd: "This one's not good for dancing. But it's good for dreaming."

But from an early performance by disco queen Gloria Gaynor to the star-studded finale led by Stevie Wonder, the crowd was on their feet for most of the night.

The 22-year old pop singer Jesse McCartney, one of the evening's youngest performers, performed his hit, "How Do You Sleep?" Italian artist Zucchero, who has appeared at every Mandela foundation concert, chose to sing the soulful "You Are So Beautiful."

While the South African freedom fighter could not make the festivities, his presence was felt inside and outside of the theater. African artists such as Suzanna Owiyo, Yvonne Chaka Chaka, Siphos Mabuse, and the Soweto Gospel Choir played backup for the night and were part of the one of the strongest performances.

Queen Latifah performed a booming rendition of "There's a Light" that ended with thunderous applause. She originally recorded the song for the 2007 movie, "Hairspray."

Among the eclectic collaborators were the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin, who joined Josh Groban for his "You Raise Me Up." After the song, Groban told the crowd that performing with Franklin was "the thrill of a lifetime."

Alicia Keys and African artist Angelique Kidjo performed the spiritual "Afrika." Rapper Lil' Kim's duet with Cyndi Lauper offered a stripped-down rendition of Lauper's "Time After Time."

Before the show, the rapper spoke of how Mandela inspired her, saying: "He was very instrumental in my experience in prison." Lil' Kim spent a year in prison on conspiracy and perjury charges.



AP  
In this Monday, July 6, 2009 file photo, Paula Abdul is shown during the taping of her show "Drop Dead Diva" in a studio in Peachtree City, Ga.

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Paula Abdul's (ab-DOOL') new manager says she may not be returning to "American Idol."

According to a Los Angeles Times report, David Sonenberg says he doesn't have a proposal for a new contract for Abdul. He says it doesn't appear she'll be back.

Sonenberg began representing Abdul a few weeks ago.

Auditions for the ninth season of the highly rated Fox talent competition begin next month.

Abdul said recently she'd been invited to remain as an "American Idol" judge and was optimistic about negotiating a new contract.

Earlier this year, Fox entertainment president Kevin Reilly called Abdul "an integral part of the show."

The other "American Idol" judges are Simon Cowell, Randy Jackson and newcomer Kara DioGuardi (KA'-ruh dee-oh-GWAHR'-dee).

## Madonna visits victims of French stage accident

**MARSEILLES, France (AP)**—Madonna on Sunday visited some of the eight workers who were injured in an accident in which two more were killed while assembling a music stage

for the singer in the French port of Marseilles.

Madonna's concert that was scheduled for Sunday night in Marseilles was canceled after the accident Thursday at the

Velodrome stadium. The roof of the stage collapsed while it was being built and crashed down on the workers.

The next stop on her tour is in Barcelona, Spain on Tuesday.

## MJ's boyhood home still draws curious

**GARY, Indiana (AP)**—Michael Jackson fans and curious sightseers still are beating a path to his boyhood home more than three weeks after his death on June 25.

A memorial of stuffed animals, flowers and photos of Jackson provides a backdrop for fans who want to be filmed or photographed in front of the house where the King of Pop, his siblings and their parents lived until 1969.

"It's tiny, for a lot of kids,"

said Hector Valenzuela, 60, of Burnham, Illinois.

He was among a steady stream of about 50 onlookers at a time who gawked and shot photographs and videotape of the one-level structure, where the lawn has been trampled.

Jackson spent the first 11 years of his life in Gary before the Jackson 5 struck it big in 1969 and the family relocated to the West Coast. Jackson came back to Gary just once, in 2003.

Five vendor booths outside

the home offer Jackson T-shirts, DVDs, CDs, posters, buttons and other memorabilia.

T-shirt vendor William Salaam said business remains steady.

"It's consistent," he said. "The people are coming from further away. Gary has gone global."

Posts outside the house are scribbled with written messages from followers of the music legend, and a banner taped to the side of the home says, "We miss you MJ."

## Salsa musician Ruben Blades visits Harvard archive

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP)**—Salsa musician and actor Ruben Blades celebrated his 61st birthday Thursday with a nostalgic visit to his archive collection at Harvard University.

The seven-time Grammy winner looked through photos, held his old records and chuckled at his change in physical appearance during his first visit to the archive at the school where he earned a master's degree in international law in 1985.

"Look at those sideburns," Blades said, looking at a photo of a show 30 years ago.

The collection is composed of donations from fans and items that the university purchased on eBay, including a vinyl copy of "From Panama to New York" and a poster of Blades promoting childhood literacy. Blades also pledged to contribute personal items and rare recordings—like a number with Mi-



AP  
Salsa singer and actor Ruben Blades visits the Loeb Music Library at Harvard University in Boston, where his music archives will be stored, Thursday July 16, 2009.

chael Jackson in Spanish.

"I'm relieved," he said, peering up from a box of magazines. "I thought it might end up in a trash can."

## Not keeping up with Joneses has its hardships and rewards

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** The letter from "Embarrassed in Ohio" (May 28), who lives in an affluent suburb and is ashamed for her daughter's friends to see her house and cars, hit home with me. We also live in a community where we can't keep up. We're in an apartment, while most of my children's friends live in beautiful homes with big yards. My husband and I both grew up with more than what we're able to provide our children.



*Dear Abby*

Abby, your response made some excellent points, but I don't think you fully understand what it's like to live this way. We're the underdogs in a snooty community. Re-evaluating priorities and working on self-esteem are important. But they do not negate how we feel when our kids ask, "Why don't we have a yard like everyone else?" Or when the PTA moms snub us because of where we live.

I am thankful for my life, my loving husband and my beautiful, healthy children. I left a career to be a stay-at-home mom. The house a person lives in shouldn't matter, but the unfortunate reality is that, in our society, it does.

"GETS IT" IN THE 'BURBS

**DEAR GETS IT: I appreciate your sincere comments. The response to "Embarrassed's" letter was varied, and many of the writers expressed different views from yours. Read on:**

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I grew up in a nice, middle-class neighborhood. My best friend, her three siblings and their single mom lived in a "dumpy" little house in a poor section of town. Abby, I LOVED going there and experiencing the feeling of family they gave me.

I had some of the best times of my life in that tiny house. There was always home-cooked food, warm conversation, and I was always welcome. As a young teen, I felt my opinions were valued there. Frankly, it was more of a home than my own house was.

HALLY IN LONG BEACH

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** We were the poor folks in the rich part of town. But do you know where all the neighbor kids wanted to play? At our house. My friends were jealous because I had parents who were there to talk to us and supervise. Our birthday parties didn't have clowns, ponies or caterers, but everyone loved our homemade cake, hot dogs, balloons and backyard games.

We had fun, and no one had to worry about what others thought. Sure, there were some snobs. But their kids wanted to be our friends. "Embarrassed" should relax, enjoy her family and stop worrying so much about appearances. Appearances can be deceiving.

POORER, BUT RICHER

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband, children and I are fortunate to have a beautiful home and luxury cars. "Embarrassed" should know that many of us do not judge others by their material possessions, but rather for who they are inside. I encourage my kids to go to any of their friends' homes, as long as there is responsible adult supervision and similar values.

"Embarrassed": Show pride in what you have and keep things clean and tidy. If there's an issue with some of the other parents, then why associate with elitist snobs?

MARIE IN OREGON

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I also began to feel discontented with my home and "things." Then I volunteered at a soup kitchen. It changed my attitude to one of gratitude. I suggest that "Embarrassed" donate some time to help those less fortunate. It'll do wonders for her perspective.

LOVES LIFE IN COPAKE, N.Y.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** We raised five children on my husband's salary as a teacher and lived in an upscale community. One day, when my 8-year-old had a friend over, I began to wash the kitchen floor. The little girl stood there watching with interest and said, "Our maid does that!" I replied, "Honey, I AM the maid!" It never hurts to give someone a reality check.

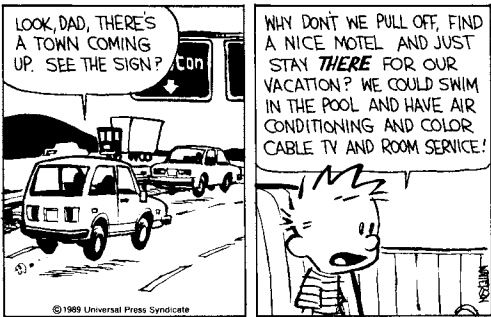
MARILYN IN GROSSE POINTE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

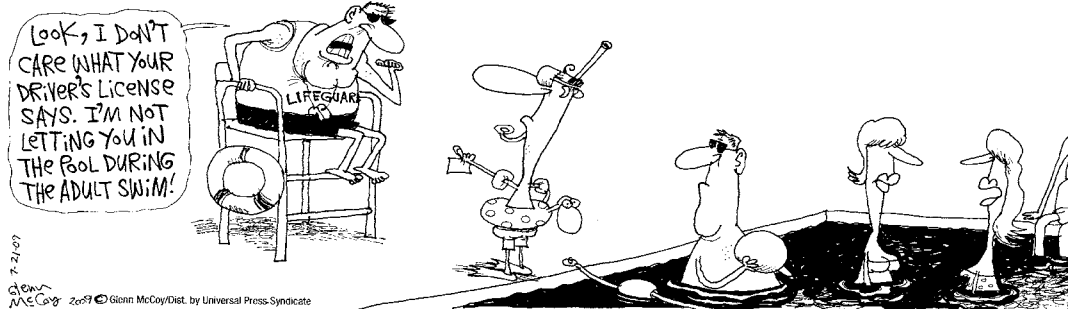
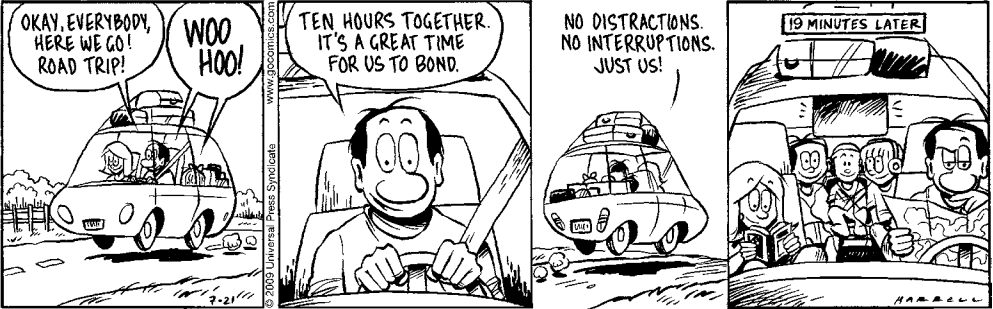


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Gumbo pod  
5 Hot tub  
8 "War of the Worlds" world  
12 Do some finger-painting  
13 Embrace  
14 Egress  
15 Stick with a kick  
17 Pleasant  
18 Drunkard  
19 Pismire  
20 Beginning  
21 Turn on the water-works  
22 Greet the villain  
23 Westminster, e.g.  
26 Our first chief justice  
30 Burp a Tupperware lid  
31 "Friends" cast member  
32 "Music Man" locale  
33 Fit

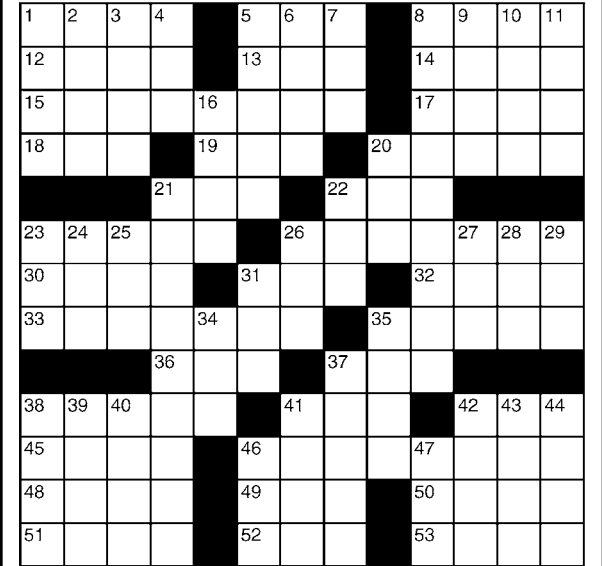
**DOWN**

1 Probability  
2 Deck, in the ring  
3 Litter's littlest  
4 Lawyers' org.  
5 Lustrous  
6 Green shot  
7 Census stat  
8 Amish, e.g.  
9 Pivot line  
10 —  
11 Undo a dele  
16 Author — Higgins  
20 Reaction to fireworks  
21 Gym-goer's target, maybe  
22 Carton  
23 Blond shade  
24 Spelldown  
25 Sheepish remark  
26 Cohort of Whoopi and Elisabeth  
27 Average guy  
28 Shock partner  
29 Shriek bark  
31 Actor McBride  
34 Attempt  
35 Antitoxins  
37 Ambulance warning  
38 Urban blight  
39 Arrived  
40 Not "fer"  
41 Benefit  
42 Sax-playing  
43 Go no farther  
44 God (Lat.)  
46 3-Down, e.g.  
47 Stitch

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

B	O	A	B	B	S	C	O	R	D
L	A	M	S	E	O	N	O	B	E
O	H	I	O	T	O	L	I	V	E
C	U	R	D	S	M	O	L	D	
	A	I	M	P	A	M	P	A	S
R	O	O	F	T	O	P	C	O	U
U	N	D	O	B	A	G	U	R	G
S	T	O	U	T	D	O	W	N	L
T	O	R	N	U	P	B	A	T	
	T	E	A	M	R	A	G	E	S
I	O	T	A	P	A	W	I	N	T
K	I	W	I	A	G	E	N	A	N
E	L	O	N	L	I	D	W	A	N

Yesterday's answer 7-21



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Charlotte Gainsbourg, 38; Josh Hartnett, 31; Jon Lovitz, 52; Robin Williams, 58

**Happy Birthday:** A change of scenery will open up doors as well as your mind, allowing you to incorporate what you have learned and come up with a plan that supports your ideas and will help you put some of your troubles behind you. Take particular care of your health and well-being. Don't let worrying get the better of you. Your numbers are 6, 18, 25, 28, 31, 40, 47

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** You may not please everyone but you must please yourself. Expect derogatory comments and be prepared to rise above whatever is said, knowing any allegations are based on jealousy not facts. Strength of character will impress even your worst critic. \*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** It's the little things you manage to finish that will impress the most. An opportunity to get involved in a new project will make you realize your true potential and what you should strive for in the future. It's time to show your talent. \*\*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Don't wait for things to come to you. Get out and connect with people who have similar goals and can help you achieve your creative dreams. A change in direction will spark renewed enthusiasm. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Look at the positive in your life. Things are much better than you realize but, if you let your negative side emerge, you will set back the events

that can lead to your success. Be willing to take a bit of a chance. \*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You may have to change your strategy when dealing with people you are involved with professionally as well as personally. Secrets will backfire. Keep the dialogue open and honest and cover your back. \*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Set the stage and present your ideas. You will have no trouble gaining interest or making a good impression. Your insight and talent will enable you to take control and get any help you may need. \*\*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** An emotional problem with someone you know through work can hold you back if you aren't careful. Travel and learning should be emphasized. Love is looking very hot and time must be put aside to play. \*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Don't take a back seat to anyone putting demands on you. Nothing should be allowed to stand in your way when it comes to learning, traveling or doing something you enjoy. The development of something highly creative is in the stars. \*\*\*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Share your thoughts, ideas and plans and you will be offered assistance. Take care of anyone who puts you on the spot or criticizes what you are trying to accomplish. A change at home or personally may be inevitable. \*\*\*

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Settle down and refrain from letting any-

**EUGENIA LAST**

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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one see your frustration and anxiety. Look for people who have something to contribute to what you are doing and it will be much easier to move forward and let go of the things you have no control over. \*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** You may have to do things differently due to financial changes. A budget and new strategy will set you on the right trail and ease your mind about your future. A career change looks possible and prosperous. \*\*\*

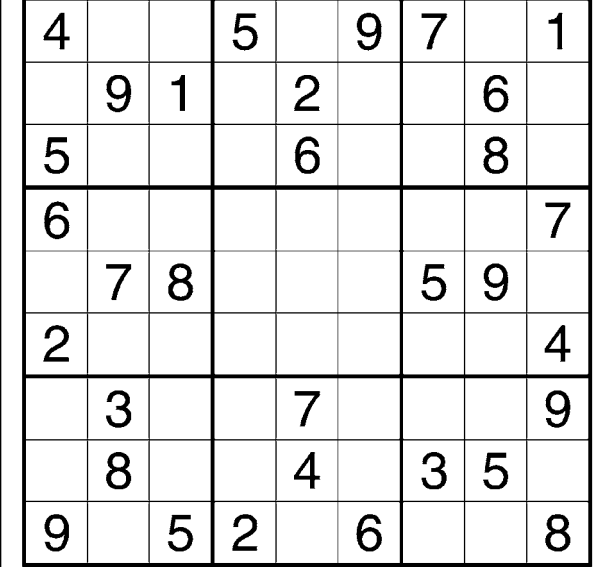
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** You need a break—time to think, reorganize your strategy and regain your confidence. Consider something you enjoy doing or that you want to develop and turn it into a workable service you can offer to others. \*\*\*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are creative, sensitive and caring and have a unique way of dealing with people. You embrace the unusual. You are changeable and engaging.

Eugenia's Web sites: [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun, [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations

SUDOKU

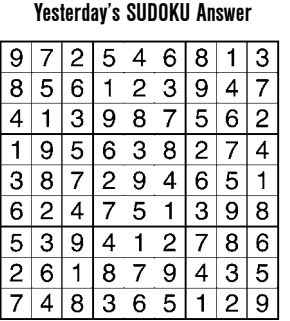
Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★ 7/21

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.



**WONDERWORD** By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**BREAK OUT THE BUBBLY** Solution: 6 letters

S E T M P E G A R O T S S N C  
S T S E E G R A D U A T I O N  
S U C P K T S R U B R N M I Y  
H L O E E C S O E A V M B T O  
A A A Y P C U R W I E U R P C  
K S P E O S I B T M B A W E C  
E E W P D J E A O B P G I C A  
Y D I P Y R T R L O N R S E S  
H O N O R I A E U I D A H R I  
P L E Y O T S R V R Z P E U O  
O P P N I P I R I E S E S S N  
R X S O E N E N W O H S D S S  
T E N E G S (K) (R) (C) I D O E N  
P A C N W O R C N E P O O R I  
C H I L L E D T O A S T G P W

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Bubbles, Bucket, Burst, Chilled, Commemoration, Cork, Crown-Cap, Deals, Drink, Explode, Good, Graduation, Grapes, Happy, Honor, Invitations, Joyous, Occasions, Open, Party, Pouring, Pressure, Reception, Respects, Saber, Salute, Serving, Shake, Ships, Show, Specialized, Speech, Stem, Storage, Strawberry, Toast, Trophy, Wine, Wins, Wishes

**Yesterday's Answer: Afghan**

WONDERWORD offers the "Book of Celebrities," for \$5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Press Syndicate plus \$3 postage for the first book order, \$1 p&h for each additional book. Send to WONDERWORD, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at [upuzzles.com](http://upuzzles.com).



# CLASSIFIED ADS

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Fujimak Heavy Duty 4 Burner Range, with oven. Mod Number: FGHRH140 Serial Nr.:T 00068044 LPG fired. CAP 3.15 Very good condition. Oven with 1 rack. Stainless Steel body. \$750.00. pls. call Malou Vuelta - 2850360/2341610

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

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WHATZIT Solution: Square dance

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment for Rent: 1 BR \$180.00 3 BR \$250.00 Located in Koblerville Contact no. 288-0728 Mr. Yoon Won Suck

**INVESTMENT PROPOSALS**

I am looking for a partner with a profitable investment proposal, to invest some fund. Contact me immediately at the information below provided you can guarantee the security of my investment capital, kindly furnish me with full business details and proposal for a Joint venture partnership with you. Please send e-mail to: [mrwolfgang002@gmail.com](mailto:mrwolfgang002@gmail.com) Contact name: **Wolfgang Brustellin**

WANTED TO LEASE/RENT

Looking to rent 2 bed house, ocean view, on hill, yard. Please call 989-8410.

WANTED TO LEASE/RENT

Need 4-or-more BR house ASAP. Recently relocated to Saipan, need safe family home. All replies considered. Brian 323-2009.

**WHATZIT?**

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

**FLAMCNE**

Find today's solution in this section

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• 3-Liner with picture	\$45
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#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:  
- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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**235-NEWS**



# Contador wins 15th stage to take control of Tour



**VERBIER, Switzerland** (AP)—Lance Armstrong all but conceded the Tour de France on Sunday to his teammate and rival Alberto Contador after the Spaniard blew away the pack and seized the yellow jersey as the race entered the Alps.

"As far as I'm concerned, I'm happy to be a domestique," Armstrong said, using French cycling jargon for a back-up rider. "I'm proud of him."

The seven-time Tour champion moved up from fourth to second in the standings but lost time to his Astana teammate, whom he now trails by 1 minute, 37 seconds.

Contador, the 2007 Tour champ, basked in the support from the Texan.

"Lance Armstrong was my idol, but dropping him today wasn't important—he was just like any other rider. ... It's an honor for me to have him working for me," he told reporters through a translator.

The 26-year-old Spaniard broke away from other pre-race favorites with 3.5 miles left in the 128.9-mile ride from Pontarlier, France to the Swiss ski resort of Verbier—and he kept extending his lead to the finish.

"I'm very happy with this result. The climb wasn't that long, but I wanted to

make a difference," said Contador, who looked fresh and tapped his chest as he finished. "I gave the maximum."

Contador came into Sunday's stage in third place overall, 6 seconds behind Rinaldo Nocentini, who had led the race for eight days. Contador finished in 5 hours, 3 minutes, 58 seconds.

Andy Schleck of Luxembourg was second in the stage, 43 seconds back, and Vincenzo Nibali of Italy was third, 1:03 back. Nocentini was 2:36 off the pace.

Armstrong, who had entered the day fourth overall and 8 seconds behind Nocentini, finished ninth, 1:35 behind his teammate.

Bradley Wiggins of Britain climbed from sixth place to third, 1:46 adrift of the Spaniard.

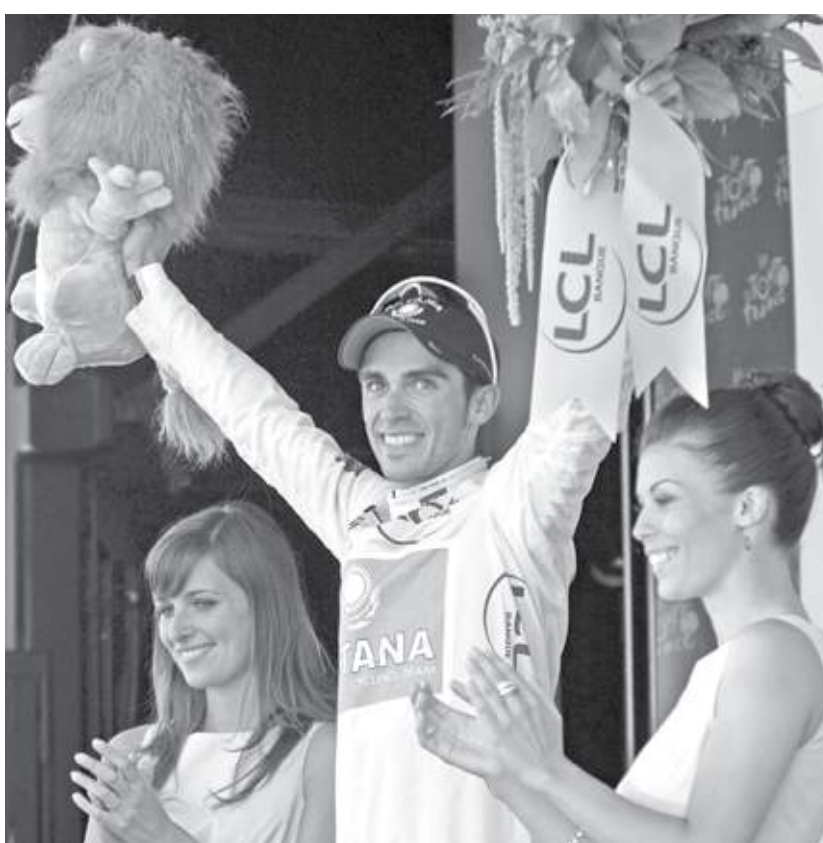
Armstrong's rivalry with Contador, on ice during last week's mostly flat stages, was set to re-ignite in Verbier.

Contador said Sunday's result left no doubt about who should be considered the Astana team leader.

"The differences now are pretty big, and the team's bet should now be me, no?" Contador said. "I'm sure my teammates are going to put in great work to back me up just like they did today."

Armstrong conceded that Contador had been superior.

"I think when Alberto went, he showed he's the best rider in the race,



Alberto Contador of Spain, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, reacts on the podium after the 15th stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 207.5 kilometers (129 miles) with start in Pontarlier, France and finish in Verbier, Switzerland, Sunday.

certainly the best climber. ... Hats off to him," Armstrong said.

The American vowed that he would not go against the interests of the team

by attacking Contador later in the race.

"That's not going to happen," he said. "There's been a lot of drama between Alberto and me ... but at the end of the day we sit as a team."

Sunday's ride was the first of three stages in the Alps, and the only one of those with an uphill finish. The 5.5-mile ascent from the valley up to Verbier was the first time that the Tour has visited the ski resort.

Ten breakaway riders set the pace from early on in the stage, and chiseled out a maximum gap of 4:40 by the 78-mile mark—before the peloton gradually started closing in.

Armstrong hugged Contador's rear wheel as the climb began, but didn't try to keep up when the Spaniard burst ahead of the small group they were in 3.5 miles from the finish.

The Texan at times rose out of his bike saddle during the final climb with his jersey open and his necklace swinging left and right. Contador, alone with 2.3 kilometers to go, angrily swatted back some fans who were running beside him on the climb.

Riders get a rest day on Monday before the two other Alpine stages, an individual time trial in Annecy on Thursday, and a ride up the dreaded Mont Ventoux on Saturday.

The Tour ends Sunday in Paris.

## T.O. hopes series shows other side of his reality



**BUFFALO, N.Y.** (AP)—T.O. is the brash, mercurial athlete, a polarizing teammate for 13 NFL seasons. Terrell is the man, shy and sensitive by nature.

You've probably heard of one. Terrell Owens wants you to meet the other.

In an eight-episode reality series set to premiere Monday on the VH-1 cable network, Owens says he'll present a counter argument to critics who portray him as a one-dimensional showboat perhaps known as much for self-indulgent sideline eruptions and quarterback criticisms as for being one of the most prolific receivers of his generation.

"Terrell you'll see pretty much on this show," Owens said. "It's pretty much to the 'T' of how I am. I mean, it's reality."

Publicist Monique Jackson, one of Owens' closest friends and a prominent figure in the show, said viewers will get a lot more than a glimpse into the life of a wealthy professional athlete.

"He's human. He has feelings. He has a life story," Jackson said. "There are all these layers that you don't understand, and all you see is this crazy body with phenomenal athletic abilities and this character."

Even as he tries to reveal another side of himself, Owens is aware that "The T.O. Show" might bring criticism from those who will label it just another exercise in self-promotion.

"That's fine. Everybody's entitled to their opinion," he said. "If it wasn't the show, it was going to be something else."

The series is partly based in Buffalo, where Owens has been the center of attention since signing with the Bills in early March, a few days after being released by the Dallas Cowboys. Some of that attention is directly connected to the reality show and certain coordi-



### Childress: Favre's throwing motion looks fine

**MINNETONKA, Minn.** (AP)—Minnesota Vikings coach Brad Childress says he has watched video of quarterback Brett Favre throwing a football and his motion "looked fine" to him. Childress spoke to reporters on Sunday at a charity event for former Vikings center Matt Birk. He told the Star Tribune of Minneapolis that he has not spoken to Favre in a couple of weeks. The coach has watched video of Favre working out in Mississippi and says, "I liked his throwing motion, the little bit that I saw on tape." Favre told The Associated Press last week that he is still testing his surgically repaired throwing arm, but expects to give the Vikings an answer on playing for them by July 30. That's the day the Vikings report for training camp in Mankato, and many expect the 39-year-old quarterback to be there with them. Favre and the Vikings have spoken openly about a potential deal for most of the summer. He had surgery on his biceps tendon in May and has been throwing to kids at Oak Grove High School in Hattiesburg, Miss., while he works his way back into shape. Childress said on Sunday that he has not been told directly of any deadline for a

nated events arranged to provide the main character something to do.

One event had Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown presenting Owens with a key to the city at a ceremony that included a high school marching band on the steps of an art gallery. Then there was Owens playing the role of broadcaster, presenting the sports news on a local television station. He also visited the Anchor

Bar, birthplace of Buffalo-style chicken wings, and Niagara Falls.

On the day The Associated Press was invited to view the filming, Owens spent part of an afternoon touring two condominiums overlooking the city's waterfront.

The 20-member VH-1 crew was already in place at the front doors of the complex when Owens and his en-

### Former NFL star Vick's dogfighting sentence ending

**HAMPTON, Va.** (AP)—Suspended NFL star Michael Vick's federal dogfighting sentence is ending. The federal Bureau of Prisons lists Vick's release date as Monday. That means Vick can shed the electronic monitor he's been wearing while on home confinement in Hampton, Va., for the last two months of his 23-month sentence. Freedom also allows Vick to step up his efforts to resume his pro football career. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has said he will review Vick's status after the former Atlanta Falcons quarterback completes his sentence. If Vick is able to return to the NFL, it won't be with Atlanta. The Falcons released Vick in June

Bar, birthplace of Buffalo-style chicken wings, and Niagara Falls.

On the day The Associated Press was invited to view the filming, Owens spent part of an afternoon touring two condominiums overlooking the city's waterfront.

The 20-member VH-1 crew was already in place at the front doors of the complex when Owens and his en-

tourage pulled up in an SUV and were greeted by a real estate agent.

The search came up empty, as both suites—including a 2,000-square foot, two-bedroom condo—were considered too small for Owens' needs. Kita Williams, also an Owens publicist and friend, did most of the talking, and at one point urged the real estate agent to "get diva-licious and let's figure something out."

Yet there also are scenes of compelling authenticity.

Filming began the same week Owens was cut by the Cowboys, and cameras were rolling when the receiver learned of his release while watching television.

Owens is particularly proud of the filming that took place in his native Alabama, where he spent time with his grandmother, Alice Black, whom he credits for raising him and who now suffers from Alzheimer's.

"It gives me chills," Owens said, growing emotional speaking about his visit. "That brought back memories. It's the intimate stuff, spending time with my family, really showing that's who I am. That's how I've gotten to be so successful. That's why I am who I am."

Much of that has to do with Black. Her influence on Owens is evident as he discusses how difficult it is for him to cope with her illness, which first became apparent early this decade.

"My success and all that I've accomplished, she knows nothing of it," Owens said. "That is so, like, my motivation. She's been a rock for me. This is a reward for her. She's been so much to me."

Producer Jesse Ignjatovic was impressed by how much Owens allowed crews to film.

"What did surprise me is the depth that he was willing to go to in the show emotionally and also reflecting on his

own life and shortcomings and things he wants to do to make him a better man," Ignjatovic said. "He really shows some sides of himself and really exposes his emotions in ways that I never thought possible."

Williams and Jackson are not surprised, because this is the side of Owens they've known since first becoming friends with him some 10 years ago.

Their roles in the show are integral as far as Owens is concerned because they offer perspective into who the receiver is, beyond the highlights and what people have written about him.

"People think he's misunderstood," Williams said. "He's not misunderstood at all. It's just that people don't know him, so it's hard to understand when you don't have the background."

"We're not saying he was perfect when we met him," Williams said.

Added Jackson: "And he's still not perfect."

Williams says loving Owens as a friend is no different than loving your own child.

"You're sometimes going to be disappointed," she said. "But does that mean you don't care about that person?"

Owens, at 35, is no child of course. He is sensitive about his image and unhappy with how the media often concentrate on the negative or outlandish things he might do while overlooking the positives, such as his charitable work or how many of his former teammates in Philadelphia and Dallas rallied to his support.

"I feel like they're poisoning minds about who I am," Owens said. "That's the unfairness of it because (people) take everything that they say as it is, pretty much biblical. I understand being journalistic and doing your job but, dude, report the facts."

"I can't win for losing," Owens said, shrugging his shoulders.

At least the show gives him his own platform. "I'm the EP," he says with a slight grin, "executive producer."



# Halladay pitches 6-hitter, Blue Jays beat Red Sox



**TORONTO**  
(AP)—Roy Halladay allowed just six hits to win for

the first time since June 7 and Rod Barajas drove in three runs to lead the Toronto Blue Jays past the Boston Red Sox 3-1 in the American League on Sunday.

Halladay (11-3) could be the biggest prize available before the July 31 trade deadline. Blue Jays general manager J.P. Ricciardi said this month he would field offers for the 2003 AL Cy Young Award winner, who is signed through 2010.

## Yankees 2, Tigers 1

At New York, Joba Chamberlain won for the first time in almost a month as New York got home runs from Mark Teixeira and Alex Rodriguez in a victory over Detroit that completed a three-game sweep of the AL Central leaders.

Chamberlain (5-2) rebounded from two ineffective starts and New York edged punchless Detroit 2-1 for the second consecutive day.

## Mariners 5, Indians 3

At Cleveland, Ichiro Suzuki had three hits, scored twice and made a game-saving catch to help Seattle beat Cleveland for a third straight game.

Suzuki went 3 for 4 with a walk, raising his average to .363.

## Orioles 10, White Sox 2

At Chicago, Jeremy Guthrie pitched eight solid innings and Gregg Zaun hit a three-run home run as Baltimore beat Chicago.

Zaun was 3-for-4 with four RBIs as the Orioles improved to 15-29 on the road.

## Rays 4, Royals 3

At Kansas City, Missouri, Gabe



Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Roy Halladay delivers against the Boston Red Sox during the third inning of a baseball game in Toronto, Sunday, July 19, 2009. AP

Gross drew a bases-loaded walk to force in the tiebreaking run with two outs in the eighth inning as Tampa Bay rallied against the struggling Kansas City bullpen.

The Royals, who have lost six straight and eight of nine, blew a 3-0 lead. It was the third straight game the bullpen failed to hold a lead. The Rays scored seven runs in the eighth innings in sweeping the three-game series.

## Angels 1, Athletics 0, 10 innings

At Oakland, California, Bobby Abreu, who broke up rookie Brett Anderson's bid for a perfect game with a seventh-inning single, homered with one out in the 10th inning to lead Los Angeles over Oakland.

Abreu's two big hits rewarded John Lackey (5-4), who allowed three hits over nine scoreless innings for the AL West-leading Angels—the

second time this season he hasn't allowed a run.

## Rangers 5, Twins 3, 12 innings

At Arlington, Texas, Ian Kinsler hit a two-run homer with one out in the 12th inning as Texas avoided being swept at home with a victory over Minnesota.

It was Kinsler's second homer of the game, but he struck out three times after his sixth career leadoff about 3 1/2 hours earlier.

## Phillies 5, Marlins 0

At Miami, unbeaten rookie pitcher J.A. Happ allowed five hits in seven innings as the Philadelphia Phillies extended their longest winning streak since 2006 to eight games by beating the Florida Marlins.

Happ (7-0) also singled with two outs to start a three-run rally in the second inning.

## Reds 5, Brewers 3

At Cincinnati, Jonny Gomes hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the eighth inning, sending Cincinnati to a victory and a split of the four-game series with Milwaukee.

Gomes connected off Seth McClung (3-3), who had a tough time in his two appearances during the series. McClung walked two and gave up a three-run homer by Edwin Encarnacion in the opening game, but the Brewers held on to win.

## Cubs 11, Nationals 3

At Washington, Alfonso Soriano's two-run homer keyed a seven-run fourth inning as Chicago completed a four-game sweep of Washington.

Jake Fox had three hits and a career-high four RBIs. Soriano's 16th home run, his second in two games after a drought of 120 at-bats, began the biggest inning of the season for the Cubs. Starting pitcher Kevin Hart (1-1) also contributed by faking a bunt and punching an RBI single.

## Giants 4, Pirates 3

At Pittsburgh, Matt Cain (11-3) held the Pirates to one run over seven innings to outpitch All-Star replacement Zach Duke (8-9), and San Francisco beat Pittsburgh.

The Giants were limited to two extra-base hits and one unearned run and didn't have an RBI in the first 28 innings of the three-game series before consecutive doubles by Randy Winn, Pablo Sandoval, Bengie Molina and Nate Schierholtz to start the sixth produced three runs.

## Cardinals 2, Diamondbacks 1

At St. Louis, Joel Pineiro hit a two-run double and pitched seven

sharp innings to lead St. Louis over Arizona.

Pineiro (8-9) gave up one run, struck out three and allowed five hits in getting his third win in five decisions after losing five straight and eight of nine.

## Rockies, 6, Padres 1

At San Diego, Jason Marquis threw eight strong innings and drove in two runs to become the majors' first 12-game winner, leading Colorado over San Diego.

The win spoiled the major league debut of San Diego right-hander Mat Latos (0-1), the club's top pitching prospect, who allowed two runs and three hits in four innings.

## Dodgers 4, Astros 3

At Los Angeles, Matt Kemp hit a tiebreaking homer in the eighth inning and Brad Ausmus had a pair of RBI doubles as Los Angeles beat Houston to earn a split of the four-game series.

Kemp drove a 3-2 pitch from LaTroy Hawkins (1-4) into the left-field pavilion for his 12th homer. He had three hits and tied a career high by scoring four runs.

## Braves 7, Mets 1

At Atlanta, Yunel Escobar had two of his four RBIs in a five-run fifth inning as Atlanta beat New York, which lost starting pitcher Fernando Nieve in the second inning. Nieve left the game with a strained right quadriceps after he tried to beat out a hit.

Escobar hit his ninth homer in the second and had a run-scoring single in the fourth to give Atlanta a 2-1 lead. The shortstop delivered a two-run double in the fifth as the Braves stretched the lead to 7-1.

# Jazz keep Paul Millsap



**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)**—Paul Millsap is staying with the Utah Jazz.

The Jazz matched the Portland Trail Blazers' \$32 million offer for the restricted free agent, keeping Millsap in Utah with a new four-year deal.

"Keeping Paul on our roster was one of our main goals this offseason," general manager Kevin O'Connor said in a release Friday. "We look forward to watching him play a key role on this team for many years to come."

But it's going to cost the Jazz.

Portland structured its offer with a promise of \$10.3 million up front, requiring the Jazz to quickly come up with the cash to keep the promising young forward on Utah's roster and off the division rival Trail Blazers'.

Utah had seven days to match the offer and made the division rival Trail Blazers wait the full week before making it official Friday, provided Millsap passes a physical. The Jazz did say Thursday night that they intended to match the offer to Millsap, a second-round surprise in the 2006 draft.

In addition to the giant raise, Millsap could be taking over the starting job if the Jazz trade Carlos Boozer.

Boozer told a Chicago radio station this week that he and the Jazz had agreed to work out a trade that would send him—and his \$12.7 million salary for next season—elsewhere. O'Connor

has not commented on Boozer's prediction that he will be traded and did not return a message Friday.

The Jazz still have plenty of time to trade Boozer before training camp in October.

Boozer is a two-time All-Star who—when healthy—has been Utah's top scorer. Millsap is a couple inches shorter, but is a tenacious rebounder who has become a fan favorite for his hustle, effort and durability. He also averaged career-high 13.5 points last season and 8.6 rebounds last season.

In three seasons, he has missed only six games. He had a string of 19 straight double-doubles when he took over for Boozer for three months last season.

The Jazz took a chance on Millsap with their second-round pick three years ago. He had led the nation in rebounding three straight years at Louisiana Tech, the alma mater of Jazz great Karl Malone.

Millsap's work ethic has even met coach Jerry Sloan's high standards. He's been one of Sloan's favorites since arriving as a rookie in 2006.

"One thing about Paul is the good Lord was good to him and gave him two ears and he's using them. Everybody thinks they're supposed to have two mouths. There's a big difference there," Sloan said in Millsap's rookie season. "Once they learn that philosophy—that you've got two ears and one mouth, they've got a better chance of listening and learning."

## NBA BRIEFS

### Cavaliers sign Moon to offer sheet

**CLEVELAND (AP)**—The Cleveland Cavaliers have signed restricted free agent Jamario Moon to an offer sheet. Moon spent last season with the Heat, who on Sunday confirmed the offer first reported by ESPN.com. Terms were not disclosed. Calls to Joel Bell, Moon's agent, were not returned. Miami has seven days to match the offer. Moon averaged 7.1 points and 4.5 rebounds in 26.5 minutes per game last year. The Heat already have a glut of wing players and team president Pat Riley has often said often over the past few weeks that salary cap and luxury tax restrictions could force Miami to keep as few as 13 players on the roster as opposed to the maximum 15. Moon has spent four seasons in the NBA, the first three with Toronto, averaging 7.8 points and 5.4 rebounds.

### Clippers trade Randolph to Memphis for Richardson

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—The Clippers have traded leading scorer Zach Randolph to Memphis in exchange for Quentin Richardson. The deal was announced Friday. Richardson averaged 10.2 points and 4.4 rebounds in 72 games with the New York Knicks last season. He's returning to the Clippers, where he played from 2000-04 after being drafted by the team out of DePaul. The 29-year-old guard-forward

was acquired by Memphis on June 25 in exchange for Darko Milicic. Richardson originally left Los Angeles as a free agent and went to Phoenix, where he played one season before joining the Knicks. Randolph was acquired in a trade with the Knicks in November 2008. The forward averaged 20.8 points and 10.1 rebounds in 50 games for the Clippers last season. But he had a rocky season off the court, including his father's death in March. Randolph was suspended for two games by the team after being arrested for investigation of drunken driving in April. He was suspended for two games for punching a Phoenix player in February.

### Agent says Daniels to play for Celtics

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)**—Former Indiana Pacers guard Marquis Daniels will play for the Boston Celtics next season. Agent Glenn Schwartzman said on Saturday that his client has committed to go to Boston as a free agent or as part of a sign-and-trade deal with Indiana. Schwartzman said both teams would prefer that the sign-and-trade works out, but the Celtics will use the biannual exception to sign Daniels if trade talks fizzle. Schwartzman wouldn't say which other players would be involved in a deal. Yahoo! Sports first reported that Daniels would join the Celtics. Daniels averaged a career-high 13.6

points last season, but Indiana chose not to pick up its \$7.3 million team option on him last month. The Pacers said they only comment on official deals.

### Childress headed for 2nd year in Greece

**ATLANTA (AP)**—Josh Childress said Friday the Atlanta Hawks' "hardball" negotiations forced him to return for a second season in Greece with Olympiakos. Childress signed a three-year, \$20 million deal with Olympiakos last year after scoring in double figures in each of his four seasons with the Hawks. The Hawks retained rights to Childress, who as a restricted free agent could negotiate with other NBA teams. Meanwhile, Childress also faced a Wednesday deadline to commit to his return to Greece. Childress and his agent, Jim Tanner, said in a telephone interview on Friday that they visited Milwaukee and had interest from other teams. They said those teams couldn't reach an agreement with the Hawks. "I knew I didn't want a ton of time and honestly didn't want a ton of time," Childress said, referring to this week's deadline with Olympiakos. "If (the Hawks) wanted to get something done it would get done early." The Hawks will again retain the NBA rights to Childress after next season. Childress said "it's not out of the question at all" for him to return to Atlanta.



CABO

From Page 28

Cove Marina empty-handed.

It was a different story last year when the erstwhile grand prize defending champion *Cabo Express* caught a 484-lb. marlin in Day 1 of the 24th edition of the tournament. In 2007, luck was also on *Cabo Express*’ side, as it landed the heaviest catch in Day 1, too of the tournament with its blue marlin tipping the scales at 288.50 lbs.

Placing second in this year’s billfish category was *CM-2337-CF*, which caught a 191.7-lb. marlin. *CM-2337-CF* is captained by Tony Maestro with Dodong Salinas as angler. A

STEWART

From Page 28

Watson stood on the 18th tee one last time, trailing the playoff by four shots, blinking away tears. He wasn’t alone in his sadness. Thousands of fans who filled the grandstands for the first time all week sat in stunned silence.

Rarely does a major championship end like this one—to polite applause from a gallery of long faces.

Cink, who was never atop the leaderboard all week until Watson missed the winning putt, was flawless in the playoff. He opened with two pars, finished with two birdies and won by six, the largest margin in this format.

Cink and Watson finished at 2-under 278.

Gazing at the fabled trophy, he paid his due to the modern-day King of the Links.

“My hat’s off to him,” Cink said. “He turned back the clock. Just did a great job. I speak for all the rest of the people here, too.”

Indeed, he did. The loudest cheer was for the player who won the silver medal.

Cink had to settle for his name engraved on golf’s oldest trophy. Yet even his first major title was bittersweet. It was hard

130.55-lb. blue marlin gave *Serepein* a third place finish in the bill fish category. Wilson Apaisam is *Serepein*, while Eva McKinny served as angler.

The Top 3 placers in billfish, yellowfin, wahoo, mahi mahi, and skipjack categories, along with grand prize winner *Sia. Remedio* and total weight champion *Senor Dung* (178.20 lbs.) were given trophies and cash prizes in last night’s awards banquet at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. *Senor Dung* caught two blue marlins in Day 1 with its first catch weighing 99.3lbs and the other tipping the scales at 78.9lbs.

*Nombei* of captain Patrick Ulechong and anglers Jerry Smith, Nate Perez, John Uys, Isaiah Ulechong, and Frank Ig-

to root against Watson, even for those trying to beat him.

“I have to be honest, playing against Tom in the playoff, it’s mixed feelings because I’ve watched him with such admiration all week,” Cink said. “And of course, it would come down to me against him in the playoff. And then the golf course is so hard that someone eventually is going to probably lose the tournament with mistakes.”

Tied with three other players along the back nine on a breezy afternoon, Watson two-putted for par on the tough 16th hole, where his challengers all made bogey to fall back. Then he made an easy birdie on the par-5 17th, giving him a one-shot lead as this unforgettable British Open reached a crescendo.

From the middle of the 18th fairway, Watson was thinking about hitting a 9-iron, then settled on an 8-iron. The ball soared right at the flag, then bounced hard and fast over the back of the green. His putt back up the slope ran 8 feet past the hole.

Watson steadied himself over the par putt, and thousands of fans braced themselves.

The moment ended quickly. It was obvious immediately he didn’t hit it hard enough. Watson’s sagging shoulders confirmed it.

uel, won the yellowfin tuna category with their 48.10-lb/ catch in Day 2. *Bottin Saba* (14.55 lbs.) and *San Juan II* (11.85 lbs.) finished second and third, respectively. *Split Decision* also caught an 11.85-lb. yellow fin, but it checked in at the dock seven minutes later that *San Juan II* to drop to fourth place.

*Padre De Familia* of captain Cal Reyes and anglers Cal Reyes Jr. and Benjie Saures found luck in Day 2, landing the heaviest wahoo that tipped the scales at 34.60 lbs. Day 1 leader *CM-622-PU*, which caught a 29.75-lb. wahoo, settled for second place. Completing the Top 3 was *Sea Craft-IV* (25.30lbs).

The Gonzalo Pangelinan-captained *Tweety Bird* was the

“I made a lousy putt,” said Watson, who closed with a 72. “Then in the playoff, it was bad shot after another.”

For the first time all week, Watson looked tired. His approach to the first playoff hole, No. 5, tumbled into a pot bunker and led to bogey to fall one shot behind. After a remarkable par save on the par-3 sixth, Watson came undone.

He hooked his tee shot on the 17th into grass so deep it took him two hacks to get back to the fairway. He three-putted for a double bogey, while Cink played safe and smart for a two-putt birdie and a four-shot lead.

Jack Nicklaus, whom Watson beat at Turnberry in 1977 in that famous “Duel in the Sun,” shared Watson’s pain.

“I don’t think Tom was tired,” Nicklaus said. “But emotionally, he was spent. All his emotions were spent in those first 18 holes. When Stewart made birdie at 18, and then Tom made bogey, it just goes right through you.

“I feel terrible for him.”

Cink, born two years before Watson won his first claret jug at Carnoustie in 1975, moves to No. 9 in the world ranking.

“It’s been a surreal experience for me,” Cink said. “Not only playing one of my favorite

lone boat among 75 to haul a mahi with their catch weighing 2.9 lbs. *Tweety Bird* had only two anglers in Chris Pangelinan and Bernard Pangelinan.

Lady Luck also smiled on *Botin Saba*, which was without a catch in Day 1, in Day 2 after captain Paul Robert and angler James Roberto caught a 15.05-lb. skipjack tuna, the heaviest in that category.

*San Isidro* of captain Lino Tenorio and anglers Jess Taitano Jr. and Marcy Tudela, led in Day 1 in the skipjack tuna with its 13.30-lb catch, but was relegated to second. The Frank Reyes captained-*CM-622-PU* was third, as anglers Nick, Gil, and Jess Reyes landed an 11.60-lb. skipjack.

courses and a wonderful tournament, but playing against Tom Watson. This stuff doesn’t happen. I grew up watching him on TV, hoping to follow in his footsteps, not playing against him.”

Some of these fans were at Turnberry in 1977 when Watson beat Nicklaus, the signature victory among Watson’s eight majors.

He just couldn’t beat Father Time. “It was fun to be in the mix again, having kids who are my kids’ age saying, ‘What are you doing out here?’ It was nice showing them you can still play,” Watson said. “I’m sure I’ll take some good things from it. But it’s still a disappointment.”

Watson wasn’t alone in that disappointment. Three other players had at least a share of the lead in a final round where fortunes shifted with the sea breeze off the Firth of Clyde.

Lee Westwood of England had a one-shot lead with four holes to play until making back-to-back bogeys. He battled to the end, however, and made a bold swing from a pot bunker in the 18th fairway. The ball cleared the sodden wall by an inch and somehow reached the front of the green. One shot behind, with Watson in the fairway behind him, he felt his only hope was to make the 70-foot putt.

### MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	55	36	.604	—
New York	54	37	.593	1
Tampa Bay	51	41	.554	4 1/2
Toronto	46	47	.495	10
Baltimore	41	50	.451	14

CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	48	42	.533	—
Chicago	47	44	.516	1 1/2
Minnesota	47	45	.511	2
Kansas City	37	54	.407	11 1/2
Cleveland	36	57	.387	13 1/2

WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	52	38	.578	—
Texas	49	41	.544	3
Seattle	49	43	.533	4
Oakland	38	52	.422	14

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	51	38	.573	—
Atlanta	46	46	.500	6 1/2
Florida	46	47	.495	7
New York	43	48	.473	9
Washington	26	65	.286	26

CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	51	43	.543	—
Chicago	47	43	.522	2
Milwaukee	47	45	.511	3
Houston	46	46	.500	4
Cincinnati	44	47	.484	5 1/2
Pittsburgh	40	51	.440	9 1/2

WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	58	34	.630	—
San Francisco	50	41	.549	7 1/2
Colorado	50	42	.543	8
Arizona	39	53	.424	19
San Diego	37	55	.402	21

### YESTERDAY'S GAMES

Seattle 5, Cleveland 3	
Toronto 3, Boston 1	
Baltimore 10, Chicago White Sox 2	
N.Y. Yankees 2, Detroit 1	
Tampa Bay 4, Kansas City 3	
L.A. Angels 1, Oakland 0, 10 innings	
Texas 5, Minnesota 3, 12 innings	
Phillies 5, Marlins 0	
Reds 5, Brewers 3	
Cubs 11, Nationals 3	
Giants 4, Pirates 3	
Cardinals 2, Diamondbacks 1	
Dodgers 4, Astros 3	
Braves 7, Mets 1	

Jeff Overton, \$82,866	70-60-76-67-282
Andres Romero, \$82,866	68-74-73-67-282
Miguel Angel Jimenez, \$82,866	64-73-76-69-282
a-Matteo Manassero	71-70-72-69-282
Camilo Villegas, \$82,866	66-73-73-70-282
Justin Rose, \$82,866	69-72-71-70-282
Francesco Molinari, \$82,866	71-70-71-70-282
Henrik Stenson, \$82,866	71-70-71-70-282
Boo Weekley, \$82,866	67-72-72-71-282
Thongchai Jaidee, \$82,866	69-72-69-72-282
Ross Fisher, \$82,866	68-68-70-75-282
Peter Hanson, \$59,151	70-71-72-70-283
Oliver Wilson, \$59,151	72-70-71-70-283
Angel Cabrera, \$59,151	69-70-72-72-283
Davis Love III, \$47,794	69-73-73-69-284
Soren Kjeldsen, \$47,794	68-76-71-69-284
Nick Watney, \$47,794	71-72-71-70-284
Mark Calavecchia, \$47,794	67-68-77-71-284
Kenichi Kuboya, \$47,794	65-72-75-72-284
James Kingston, \$47,794	67-71-74-72-284
John Daly, \$47,794	68-72-72-72-284
Richard Sterne, \$38,258	67-73-75-70-285
Martin Kaymer, \$38,258	69-70-74-72-285
Graeme McDowell, \$38,258	68-73-71-73-285
Jim Furyk, \$38,258	67-72-70-76-285
Sergio Garcia, \$31,176	70-69-76-71-286
Thomas Levett, \$31,176	71-73-71-71-286
Nick Dougherty, \$31,176	70-70-73-73-286
Vijay Singh, \$31,176	67-70-75-74-286
Steve Marino, \$31,176	67-68-76-75-286
Anthony Wall, \$25,539	68-72-75-72-287
Branden Grace, \$25,539	67-72-73-75-287
Paul McGinley, \$25,539	71-71-70-75-287
Bryce Molder, \$25,539	70-73-67-77-287
Paul Lawrie, \$21,571	71-73-76-68-288
Zach Johnson, \$21,571	70-71-77-70-288
Paul Casey, \$21,571	68-76-74-70-288
Rory McIlroy, \$21,571	67-70-75-74-288
Gonzalo Hernandez-Castano, \$21,571	69-72-73-74-288
Darren Clarke, \$18,295	71-71-78-69-289
Kenny Perry, \$18,295	71-72-75-71-289
Graeme Storm, \$18,295	72-72-74-71-289
Robert Alenby, \$18,295	70-74-73-72-289
Johan Edfors, \$18,295	71-73-72-73-289
Billy Mayfair, \$18,295	69-73-73-74-289
David Howell, \$18,295	68-73-72-76-289
Steve Stricker, \$18,295	66-77-70-76-289
David Drysdale, \$17,013	69-73-75-73-290
Tom Lehman, \$17,013	68-74-74-74-290
Paul Broadhurst, \$17,013	70-72-74-74-290
Kevin Sutherland, \$17,013	69-73-75-75-290
Ryuji Imada, \$16,006	74-69-73-69-291
Fredrik Andersson Hed, \$16,199	71-70-78-73-292
Padraig Harrington, \$16,199	69-74-76-73-292
Stuart Appleby, \$16,199	71-72-76-73-292
Sean O'Hair, \$16,199	68-75-75-74-292
J.B. Holmes, \$15,792	67-70-75-80-293
Mark O'Meara, \$15,547	67-71-77-74-295
Fredrik Jacobson, \$15,547	70-72-77-76-295
Paul Goydos, \$15,303	72-72-77-82-303
Daniel Gaunt, \$15,140	76-67-79-82-304

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRITISH OPEN SCORES	
TURNBERRY, Scotland (AP)—Final scores Sunday in the British Open, a \$6.8 million event played at the 7,204-yard, par-70 Ailsa Course at Turnberry Golf Club (x-won four-hole playoff, 14-20):	
FINAL ROUND	
x-Stewart Cink, \$1,221,005	66-72-71-69-278
Tom Watson, \$732,603	65-70-71-72-278
Chris Wood, \$415,142	70-70-72-67-279
Lee Westwood, \$415,142	68-70-70-71-279
Luke Donald, \$255,597	71-72-70-67-280
Retief Goosen, \$255,597	67-70-71-72-280
Mathew Goggins, \$255,597	66-72-69-73-280
Soren Hansen, \$147,172	68-72-74-67-281
Justin Leonard, \$147,172	70-70-73-68-281
Ernie Els, \$147,172	69-72-72-68-281
Thomas Aiken, \$147,172	71-72-69-69-281
Richard S. Johnson, \$147,172	70-72-69-70-281

LOCAL SCORES	
UFO STANDINGS	
Open	
MDX	6 0
SIP	5 1
SMF	3 3
Bayani	2 4
VisMinda	2 4
NMBA	2 4
Cabalen	1 5
Masters	
Bayani	4 1
Boholanos	2 1
Cabalen	2 2
NMBA	2 2
MAFEA	2 2
MDX	2 4
MFICPA	0 3

MDX

From Page 28

players napping.

Nelson Samson and Sonny Ebuena led MDX’s breakaway in the third, combining for 18 of the team’s 31 points. Boholanos was held to 18 markers in the third and had only four field goals, helping MDX take a 78-68, going into the payoff canto.

Boholanos never recovered from thereon, as they simply did not have the fresh legs and fire-

power to match up with MDX, which had 11 players suiting up for the game.

In the other game in the masters division, MAFEA limited MIFICPA to eight points in the second quarter to turn a 25-16 lead to a big 42-24 advantage at halftime.

MAFEA kept the double-dig-it margin in the second half to hand MFICPA its third loss in as many games.

**SMF slips past NMBA**

In the last game in the open

division, Samahang Mang-gagawang Filipino thwarted Northern Marianas Bartenders Association in the continuation of their rain-suspended match, 118-113.

After leading by as much as 17 in the third period, 97-80, the Quichocho Law Office-sponsored SMF saw its lead down to single digit before Sonny Lerio and Bonbon Cadagat hit clutch triples in the fourth to preserve the win.

Lerio connected on three 3-pointers in the final canto,

while Cadagat added one and finished with 25 points. Lerio totaled 26 markers, while Cruz, who did not play at the resumption of the match in the fourth period, still top-scored for SMF with 29 markers.

SMF finished the regular season with a 3-3 mark to rank third in the seven-team field.

**OPEN**

**SMF 118**—Cruz 29, Lerio 26, Cadagat 25, Pagarao 9, Moises 7, Tumaquip 6, Arreza 7, Itaas 4, Ong 2, Mendez 2.

**NMBA 113**—Opono 21, Gapor 19, Estolas 19, Rebuyon 13, Villarin 11, Aquino 10, Aranda 8, Macoto 4, Duenas 4, Umali 2, De Guzman 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 29-22, 62-54, 97-80, 118-113.

**MASTERS**

**First Game**

**MAFEA 72**—Espinosa 14, Villegas 12, Ocampo 9, Lopez 8, Yalung 6, Illahi 6, Garcia 4, Surima 4, Quemado 4, Delfin 3.

**MIFICPA 45**—Ebuena 12, Dacumos 10, Gonzales 6, Leong

6, Ancheta 3, Sevilla, 2 Madrilejos 2, Epan 2, Rabano 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 25-16, 42-24, 53-35, 72-45.

**Second Game**

**MDX 99**—Ebuena 20, Montano 16, Samson 16, Malasarte 14, Salazar 9, Pablo 7, Dela Cruz 4, Villasan 4.

Boholanos 87 — Abuy 25, Bicara 17, De La Torre 15, Jinang 10, Garcia 8, Pineda 6, Rabago 5.

**Scoring by quarters:** 22-21, 50-47, 78-68, 99-87.

OLEAI

From Page 28

Antonio, Lori Terre, and Agnes Tereyama.

The Oleai Shooters gave Oleai its second championship trophy after prevailing in the Thursday B Flame Tree division. The Shooters are composed of Agnes and Poli Tereyama, Greg Sasamoto, Alfred Hocog, Robert Dela Cruz, and William Angeles.

USSP No Fear and The Flair

Sakudi Umbre finished second and third, respectively, in the Thursday B Flame Tree division.

Oleai’s third championship trophy was courtesy of the Challengers, which had Jimmy and Charlotte Tenepere, Lambon, Jonar Sembrano, Jun Visaya, George Medina, and Patrick Castro as members and won the Thursday B Fanihi division.

Oleai Challengers defeated Monte Carlo 99 Proofers and Bill Bones Bad Boys 2.

Black Stallion Jr. handed Oleai its fourth championship

trophy after ruling the Tuesday B division over runner-up Jonny’s Fujin, Monte Carlo 80 Proofers, and Billy Bones Bad Boys 1.

MVP Romano Quindoza anchored Black Stallion Jr.’s title-conquest in the Tuesday B League. Joining him on the team are Arvy Salamat, Jun Visaya, Arthur Miranda, Rodel Quindoza, Raffy David, and Rey Pinangay.

In the Masters division, D’Pirates M-Destroyers won over the Oleai Snipers and

Oleai Black Stallions. M-Destroyers are composed of Sadiri Martin, Avel Villafuerte, Annie Legaspi, Eric Durano, Bong Dizon, Junnie Guevarra, and Gerry Galsote.

Utopia A Corners, which had Ed Gabito, Lino Ibis, Jaime Ulat, Army Salamat, Romuel Chavez, and Edgar Abalos as members, reigned in the A division, prevailing over D’Pirates-D-Destroyers and VFW Major Leaks.

In the C division, Bwiibwiis Barracuda C outclassed D’Pirates Just Let It Go, sister

team Bwiibwiis META MWA, and Jonny’s ADH.

The Top 3 placers in each division were awarded individual trophies.

Meanwhile, MVPs in each division received especially crafted glass trophies. The list include Pam Ybanez of Oleai Snipers (Masters), Gabito of Utopia (A division), Sembrano of Oleai Challengers (Thursday B Fanihi), Frances Magofna of USSP No Fear (Thursday B Flame Tree), and Jess Teigita (C division).

Pacific Amusement, Inc.,

which organized the tournament through the help of MAR-PAC, also recognized winners in the high-in/out categories and champions in the Budlight Cup.

M-Destroyers topped the Masters division of Budlight Cup. Other champions were VFW Major Leaks (A division), Oleai Black Stallion Jr. (Tuesday B), VFW Dutty Guns (Thursday B Fanihi), Oleai Shooters (Thursday B Flame Tree), Bwiibwiis META MWA (C division) and Bwiibwiis Mermaids (Ladies division).



# 2009 SEDA Winter/Spring League Awards

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Members and supporters of C League champion Bwiibwiis Barracuda C pose with their trophies.



Thursday B Fanihi champion Oleai Challengers pose for a group photo.



D'Pirates M-Destroyers pose for a group photo after getting the championship trophies in the Masters League.



Members of Oleai Black Stallion Junior celebrate their title win in the Tuesday B division.



Utopia 4 Corners receive their championship trophies in the A League division.



Thursday B Flame Three division top placer Oleai Shooters receive their awards.



Two members of Ladies division runner-up Jonny's.com show their trophies.



Thursday B Flame Three third placer The Flaire Sakudi Umbre are all smiles after getting their trophies.



The VFW Major Leaks pose with their third place trophy in the A League.



C League third placer Bwiibwiis META MWA show their trophies.





## Halladay pitches 6-hitter, Blue Jays beat Red Sox

Roy Halladay allowed just six hits to win for the first time since June 7 and Rod Barajas drove in three runs to lead the Toronto Blue Jays past the Boston Red Sox 3-1 in the American League on Sunday. **25**

# Saipan Tribune Sports

## Contador wins 15th stage to take control of Tour

Lance Armstrong all but conceded the Tour de France on Sunday to his teammate and rival Alberto Contador after the Spaniard blew away the pack and seized the yellow jersey as the race entered the Alps. **24**



28 TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2009

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Stewart Cink wins British Open

## Watson squanders his chance at a historic win

By DOUG FERGUSON  
AP GOLF WRITER

**T**URNBERRY, Scotland (AP)—One putt from 8 feet was all that separated Tom Watson from a moment no one imagined possible until he was close enough to make it happen with one final stroke.

On the verge of becoming golf's oldest major champion, Watson finally showed his 59-year-old nerves.

The par putt never had a chance. An hour later, neither did Watson.



"It would have been a hell of a story, wouldn't it?" Watson said. "And it was almost. Almost. The dream almost came true."

Turns out this British Open was too good to be true.

Stewart Cink, who made a 12-foot birdie on the final hole of regulation that only looked good enough for second place, overwhelmed a weary Watson in the four-hole playoff to win



Stewart Cink of the US, left, holds the trophy as Tom Watson of the US, right, looks on, after winning a play-off following the final round of the British Open Golf championship, at the Turnberry golf course, Scotland, Sunday, July 19, 2009.

the British Open on Sunday.

Cink posed on the edge of a pot bunker with the claret jug.

Watson walked into the press center and quickly sized up the mood.

"This ain't a funeral, you know," he said.

See STEWART on Page 26

## Oleai dominates SEDA's 2009 Winter/Spring League



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members of Oleai B-52's pose with their championship trophies in the Ladies division during the awards banquet for the Saipan Electronic Darts Association Winter/Spring 2009 League Sunday at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Oleai Beach Bar & Grill won four of the seven divisions in the Saipan Electronic Darts Association Winter/Spring 2009 League, keeping its players busy during the awards banquet last Sunday at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret.



Oleai started its juggernaut in the Ladies division with B-52's beating runner-up Jonny's. com and third placer Naked Fish Naked Shooters.

Ladies division MVP Rufina Guevarra led Oleai B-52's to the championship, teaming up with Mara Lambon, Emily Vargas, Jenny Cabrera, Luz

See OLEAI on Page 26

## Cabo Express tops billfish category

### Senor Dung is total weight champ

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



With *Sta. Remedio* taking home the grand prize in the 25th

Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament, back-to-back champion *Cabo Express* settled for the top prize in the billfish category.

The Rep. Heinz Hofschneider-captained *Cabo Express*, which took the grand prize in 2007 and 2008, caught a 224-lb. Pacific blue marlin in the second day of the tournament last Sunday.

It was the second heaviest catch in the two-day tournament, 95.5 lbs. less than *Sta. Remedio's* tournament-best 319.5-lb. Pacific blue marlin caught last Saturday.

*Cabo Express*, which had Louie Manibusan, John Castro, and Conrad Hofschneider as anglers, had a lackluster hunt in Day 1, as they returned to the dock of the Smiling

See CABO on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Anglers of *Senor Dung* show the two marlins they caught in Day 1 of the 25th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament last Saturday.

## MDX snap Boholanos' streak, MAFEA triumphs



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MDX-Armatech's Sonny Ebu, left, loses his balance a bit and looks for a teammate to kick the ball out after bumping to Boholanos-Raffy's Diner's Danny Bicara during their game in the masters division of the UFO caging last Sunday at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

MDX-Armatech and MAFEA-Bank of Saipan notched their second win after recording contrasting victories over separates foes in the masters division of the 2009 Inaugural Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan.

MDX edged Boholanos-Raffy's Diner in the second game, 99-87, to finish the round-robin regular season with a 2-4 record. MAFEA improved to a 2-2 slate after whipping MIFICPA Bowlers, 72-45, in the curtain raiser.

The 11-point win allowed MDX to hand Boholanos their first loss in three games.

The Raffy's Diner-backed Boholanos played with a depleted crew, having only seven players available for the game.

Despite their handicap, Boholanos kept MDX at bay in the first 20 minutes of the game. Danny Bicara had eight points in the first period, matching Bong Malasarte's output for MDX and Boholanos were behind by only a point, 21-22, entering the second canto.

Boholanos even took the lead at half-time, 50-47, behind James Abuy's treys, before MDX stepped on the gas pedal in the third, catching the tired Boholanos

See MDX on Page 26

